

FALKIRK COUNCIL

Subject: FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC POUND (FPP): PROGRESS REPORT
Meeting: SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Date: 14 NOVEMBER 2013
Author: DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update Members on the work of the external organisations which receive funding, in whole or in part, from Development Services and which fall within the 'Following the Public Pound' (FPP) reporting and monitoring arrangements.
- 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 which Development Services had with external organisations during the period 1 April 2012 – 31 March 2013, in line with the FPP and Council procedures.

2. OVERVIEW OF ORGANISATIONS WHICH RECEIVED FUNDING

- 2.1 The table below shows the three external organisations that received Council support during 2012/13, for which Development Services 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 | Central Scotland Forest Trust (CSFT) | 12/13 | Projects | £278,140 | £278,140 |
| 2 | Falkirk Environment Trust (FET) | 12/13 | Core | £27,450 | £27,450 |
| 3 | Falkirk Town Centre Management | 12/13 | Core | £188,309 | £188,309* |
| | Total Funding | | | | |

Note: * the figure for Falkirk Town Centre Management (BID) for 2012/13 excludes financial support of £20,000 from Corporate & Neighbourhood Services for the Taxi Marshalling Initiative.

3. ASSESSMENT OF INDIVIDUAL ORGANISATIONS' PERFORMANCE

- 3.1 An individual report is attached for each 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.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 Members are asked to consider individual reports for external organisations and select an option from those presented in paragraph 4.1.

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DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Date: 31 October 2013

Contact Name: John Angell

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. Central Scotland Forest Strategy 2013
2. CSFT Annual Report 2011-2012
3. CSFT Board Papers
4. Falkirk Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy.
5. Falkirk Environment Trust Accounts and Annual Report 2012/13.
6. Report to Policy and Performance Review Committee 19 March 1998.
7. Establishment of Falkirk Environment Trust.
8. Falkirk Environment Trust Business Plan (2009-14).
9. Falkirk Environment Trust – Project Files.
10. Falkirk BID Business Plan

Any person wishing to inspect the background papers listed above should telephone Falkirk 01324 504950 and ask for Mandy Brown (for CSFT), Ian Edwards (for FET) or Peter Reid (for Falkirk Town Centre Management).