

S21. FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC POUND (FPP): PROGRESS REPORT

Council had previously agreed that the scrutiny of those organisations which receive full or part funding by Falkirk Council would be undertaken by the Scrutiny Committee. The committee had agreed a reporting schedule based around the service which provides the financial support.

The committee considered a report by the Director of Corporate and Neighbourhood Services presenting individual reports on ten organisations which receive funding from Corporate and Neighbourhood Services. Each report set out the service provided, the agreed outcomes/objectives, performance information and the financial support from Corporate and Neighbourhood Services.

In terms of the Following the Public Pound framework a monitoring officer had been appointed by the funding service to each of the external organisations.

The monitoring officers were in attendance and were invited to give an overview of the role of their organisation, its funding arrangements together with performance and risks.

Members of the committee then asked questions of the monitoring officer with regard to the performance of the organisation. Committee was invited, for each organisation to (1) approve the report and acknowledge the progress made by the organisation; (2) request further information on specific aspects of the organisation; or (3) request action with follow up at a future meeting of the Committee.

A summary of the discussion and outcome for each organisation is given below:-

- (1) Veterans Support, Denny & Dunipace Citizens Advice Bureaux**
Total support provided by Falkirk Council - £20,000
Monitoring Officer – Caird Forsyth

Members discussed the role of the project in supporting veterans and commended the officers for raising the initial profile within the local community.

The Committee approved the report and acknowledged its progress in meeting Council objectives.

- (2) Care Support Funding, CVS Falkirk and District**
Total support provided by Falkirk Council - £113,748
Monitoring Officer – Andrew Wilson

Members discussed the role of CVS Falkirk and the impact of recent management changes within the organisation on its workplan. The Committee sought clarification in particular on the number of objectives and whether there was clarity within the organisation on its role.

The Committee approved the report and acknowledged its progress in meeting Council objectives.

- (3) Domestic Abuse Support Services, Falkirk and District Womens Aid**
Total support provided by Falkirk Council - £244,170
Monitoring Officer – Joanne Stewart

The Committee sought information on the funding of the project.

The Committee approved the report and acknowledged its progress in meeting Council objectives.

- (4) Soup Kitchen, Salvation Army**
Total support provided by Falkirk Council - £10,745
Monitoring Officer – Joanne Stewart

The Committee sought information on the operation of the soup kitchen and on the up take of its services.

The Committee approved the report and acknowledged its progress in meeting Council objectives.

- (5) Smartmove, Linkliving**
Total support provided by Falkirk Council - £14,114
Monitoring Officer – Joanne Stewart

The Committee approved the report and acknowledged the progress made in meeting council objectives.

- (6) Forth Valley Family Support Service, Forth Valley Alcohol and Drug Partnerships**
Total support provided by Falkirk Council - £20,000
Monitoring Officer – Caird Forsyth

The members of the Committee sought clarification on the status of the project and in particular in the transition from the pilot project to the full project.

Members also questioned the nature of the support offered by the project.

- (7) Real Jobs Falkirk, The Action Group**
Total support provided by Falkirk Council - £90,000
Monitoring Officer – Linda Scott

The Committee sought approved the report and acknowledged the progress made in meeting Council objectives.

- (8) Sport 4 Youth, Falkirk Community Trust**
Total support provided by Falkirk Council - £38,637
Monitoring Officer – Linda Scott

Members sought clarity on arrangements for the letting of sports facilities and the role of headteachers in this process.

The Committee approved the report and acknowledged its progress in meeting council objectives.

Provost Reid then rejoined the meeting.

- (9) Forth Valley, MacMillan Money Matters Project, Partnership with NHS Forth Valley and MacMillan Cancer Support**
Total support provided by Falkirk Council - £50,000
Monitoring Officer – Linda Scott

The Committee approved the report.

In accordance with his declaration, Provost Reid left the meeting at this point. Baillie Paterson took the chair for this item.

- (10) Central Scotland Regional Equality Council**
Total support provided by Falkirk Council £15,200
Monitoring Officer – Celia Sweeney

The Committee discussed the organisational change within CSREC and the impact on the service provision. Members also discussed the value for money provided by CSREC.

The Committee requested a report, within 6 months, on the progress of CSREC in meeting its objectives and outcomes.

Provost Reid then rejoined the meeting.

During discussion on the reports members requested that in future reports provide information each of the extended organisations total support with the Council's funding expressed as a proportion of this total.

Decision

The Committee:-

- 1) approved the reports on Falkirk Armed Services Advice Project; Care Support funding; Domestic Abuse Support Services; Soup Kitchen; Smartmove; Real Jobs Falkirk; Sports 4 Youth and Forth Valley Macmillan Money Matters project and acknowledged the progress made by each organisation in meeting Council objectives;**
- 2) requested a further report on the implementation of the Forth Valley Alcohol and Drug Partnership contract for addictions, support and counselling following the conclusion of the initial, pilot project;**
- 3) request a report, within 6 months, on the progress of Central Scotland Regional Equality Council in regard to meeting Council objectives and outcomes;**
- 4) approved the format of the reports, subject to the inclusion in each report of the Council's funding expressed as a proportion of each organisation's total funding.**