

Report

Report to:	Community Wealth Building Commission
Date of Meeting:	12 March 2024
Report by:	Chief Executive

Subject:	Community Wish List
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ♦ provide an update on the establishment and development of the [Community Wish List](#) and to consider its future

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Commission is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that the progress made on the implementation of the Community Wish List be noted.

3. Background

- 3.1. Community Wish Lists have been established across the public sector where communities are enabled to put forward requests for specific needs or benefits that can then be supported by selection by suppliers delivering contracts. The main advantage of this approach is in encouraging and providing a more bottom-up approach to delivering community benefits as part of the public sector procurement process, where communities' needs are being directly specified by communities and met by contractors.
- 3.2. In July 2022, the Commission received an update that all 8 local authorities in the Glasgow City Region agreed in 2022 to work together to develop a regional web-based Community Benefit Digital interface which would have a shared backroom and individual landing page for each council. It was hoped this new platform would be able to incorporate the Wish List. The procurement process was expected to start in 2022 but was delayed and is now about to commence. We already use this platform in-house for other community benefit work.
- 3.3. At the time, South Lanarkshire Council identified investment funding which supported a fixed term 0.5 FTE officer post in the Community Engagement Team to work with communities to promote understanding and awareness of the Community Wish List. This post moved the Wish List forward in South Lanarkshire.
- 3.4. There was a great deal of preparatory work with communities to introduce the new concept prior to the interface being live. The postholder commenced in June 2022 and focused on establishing an [in-house platform](#) for wishes to be advertised, promoting the service and supporting groups to identify their wishes. The South Lanarkshire Wish List launched in July 2023.

4. Current Progress

- 4.1. The Community Wish List has been 'trading' for 11 months. By the end of January 2024, it had **55** open wishes, **9** in process and [17 answered wishes](#).
- 4.2. The 9 wishes in process include requests for financial donations, goods and materials, IT equipment, food and activity supplies.
- 4.3. The wishes completed in the first 11 months of the programme are valued at £9,559.96.

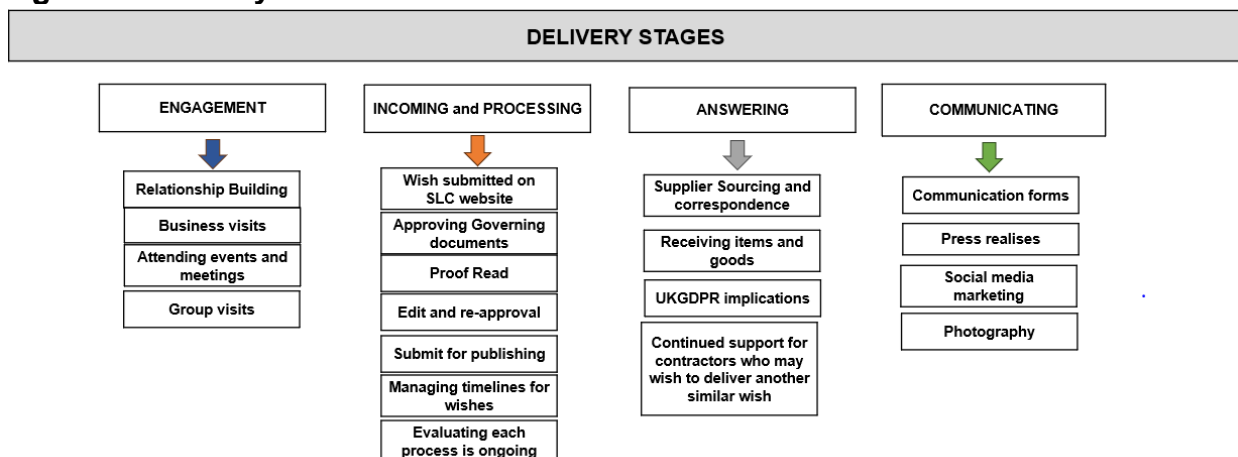
Group Name	Type of Wish Asked	Answered By	What has been Received	Value
Blantyre Old Parish Church	Donation of Goods/Materials	Block Architects Ltd	Security Light £300 for light £100 labour Press Release	£400.00
PAMIS South Lanarkshire	Financial Donation	A M PHILLIP TRUCKTECH LTD	Financial Donation	£250.00
Abington Community Development Group	Donation of Voluntary time - Specific	Block Architects Ltd	Design Costs	£200
Childcare in the community	Financial Donation	A M PHILLIP TRUCKTECH LTD	Financial Donation	£250
Agape wellbeing	Donation of Goods/Materials	Findel.co.uk	3 x convector heaters 3x £89.99	£269.97
The Village Centre	Donation of Goods/Materials	Findel.co.uk	6 x tables £180	£1080
Stonehouse Mens shed	Donation of Goods/Materials	Jettison Professional Waste Management	2 x guitars £60 each 1x Banjo £20 2 x Violins £40 each Press Release	£220
Lanarkshire Rape Crisis Centre	Donation of Goods/Materials	Sandra Martin	Basic essentials such as, shampoo, conditioner, soap, hairbrushes, toothpaste, notebooks, pens, blankets, and candles	£800
St Mary's Parent Council	Donation of Goods/Materials	Findel.co.uk	Defibrillator	£1,319.99
Sense Scotland	Financial Donation	A M PHILLIP TRUCKTECH LTD	Financial Donation	£250
Ups and Downs Theatre Group	Financial Donation	A M PHILLIP TRUCKTECH LTD	Financial Donation	£250
REACH Lanarkshire Autism	Donation of Goods/Materials	RM Resources	Supply of educational material	£500
Neilsland Primary Parent Council	Donation of Goods/Materials	Bell Group	Building of raised beds and painting them	£620
Hamilton District Foodbank	Food donation and support	Beattie Demolition	Directly Answered	£100
Abington community group	Donation of Goods/Materials	Various community groups	Christmas Decorations and Gifts	£150
Fernhill Bowlers	Financial Donation	SSI Schaefer Plastics UK Limited	Financial Donation	£250
Hamilton Churches Drop-in Centre	Food donation and support	McConechys Tyres	Food donation	£100

5 Delivery Model

- 5.1. The delivery of the programme to date requires contact with both communities and suppliers to continually develop the wishes, find offers and to find matches. While some elements of this work could be automated, the consistent messaging and pro-active promotion of the Wish List through the Community Engagement Team's

networks has contributed to its quick growth and the pace of successful matches as demonstrated in figure 1.

Figure 1- Delivery Process



- 5.2. Suppliers that make offers range in size and scale from large national organisations such as Findel Education (who supply UK wide) and some smaller, local businesses that are not in our procurement suppliers lists but wish to support local community activity.
- 5.3. Suppliers are sourced through two routes; some come directly to us wishing to make an offer or some come through the Procurement Team promotion to suppliers they are working with.
- 5.4. Developing a relationship with the suppliers through the matching process has been critical in the success of the Wish List development to date. Once a supplier has chosen to make an offer and delivered on their commitment, they can then promote the Wish List to businesses in their own supply chains.
- 5.5. Suppliers have fed back to the Procurement Team that the single point of contact for the wish list makes it quick and easy to use and assists with processing a wish quickly.

6 Automation Options

- 6.1. The Community Wish List has been fully integrated into the Community Benefits Menu. The refreshed Community Benefits Menu sets out a range of opportunities for suppliers to engage with the Community Wish List, with hyperlinks from the menu taking bidders directly to the web-based platform. Bidders can choose to select live requests from community organisations to fulfil as part of their Community Benefits offer. This is promoted and monitored by the Procurement Team. This menu will be embedded into the new Social Benefit Procurement Platform Referenced in 3.2, but the specific wish list contents cannot be included therefore it will not be able to automate the matching function.
- 6.2. The current Wish List platform is free of charge because it is hosted within the council's existing website but requires staff resource to update and maintain as well as manage the relationships the matching creates.
- 6.3. Elements of the process in Figure 1 could be automated and use a 'self-service' model but staff would still need to edit and approve wishes requested before they do online, and provide contact information to both interested parties once a match is made. Staff would also need to close the wish down from the website and follow up

to see if the wish was granted or not. This would reduce staff time but also the frequency and quality of matches that are completed.

7. Employee Implications

- 7.1. The Wish List Development Officer is a 0.5 FTE temporary contract that will end on 30 June 2023.

8. Financial Implications

- 8.1. Continuing the Development Officer post would incur an ongoing cost.
- 8.2. Automating the service will incur some transition costs but these are still to be assessed.

9. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

- 9.1. There are no climate change, sustainability or environmental implications as a result of this report.

10. Other Implications

- 10.1. There are reputational risks to the quality of the service and therefore, its sustainability and continued growth and success associated with the content of this report.

11. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 11.1. There are no Equality Impact Assessment or consultation implications associated with this report.

Paul Manning
Chief Executive

20February 2024

Link(s) to Council Values/Priorities/Outcomes

Values

- ◆ Focused on people and their needs
- ◆ Working with and respecting others
- ◆ Accountable, effective, efficient and transparent
- ◆ Ambitious, self-aware and improving
- ◆ Fair, open and sustainable

Priorities

- ◆ We will work to put people first and reduce inequality
- ◆ We will work towards a sustainable future in sustainable places
- ◆ We will work to recover, progress, and improve

Outcomes

- ◆ Good quality, suitable and sustainable places to live
- ◆ Thriving business, fair jobs and vibrant town centres
- ◆ Caring, connected, sustainable communities
- ◆ People live the healthiest lives possible

Previous References

- ◆ None

List of Background Papers

- ◆ None

Contact for Further Information

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

Jen Kerr, Community Engagement Manager

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