

Report

Report to:	Enterprise Services Committee
Date of Meeting:	12 November 2013
Report by:	Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)

Subject:	Clyde Wind Farm Community Fund – Grant Application Limelight Music
----------	---

1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ Consider an application to the Clyde Wind Farm Community Fund from Limelight Music.

2. Recommendation(s)

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

- (1) that a grant be awarded from the Clyde Wind Farm Community Fund to Limelight Music of up to £59,337 towards the delivery of the Recycling Rhythms project, subject to confirmation of match funding.

3. Background

- 3.1. The Enterprise Resources Committee of 17 March 2010, approved the Clyde Wind Farm Community and Development Fund and the administrative arrangements associated with the allocation of funds.
- 3.2. The Fund is supported from payments from Scottish Hydro (formerly SSE Renewables) who operate the Clyde Wind Farm. To date, Scottish Hydro has made payments into the Fund totalling £2,319,787 . The Fund will receive income for a duration of 25 years. The payments received relate to the first 3 years. The payments will rise annually in line with the General Index of Retail Prices (RPI) (excluding mortgage interest).
- 3.3. The Clyde Wind Farm Fund is administered by Regeneration Services who have responsibility for advising potential applicants, assessing applications and monitoring projects to ensure that the community benefits associated with each project are delivered.
- 3.4. Grant awards from the main Community Fund require approval at the Council's Enterprise Services Committee, with grant awards of 50%-90% of eligible costs being achievable. Grant awards for successful applications to the Community Fund Small Grant Scheme (up to £5000) and all awards from the Development Fund are delegated to the Head of Regeneration Services for approval.

4. Proposal

Limelight Music – Recycling Rhythms Project

- 4.1. Limelight was founded under the name of Strathclyde Orchestral Productions in 1990 and is dedicated to maintaining a high quality involvement experience and performance programme that brings artistic development for people of all ages and abilities. The organisation provides music training and participation sessions for over 1,600 school pupils and 300 disabled adults each year in collaboration with local authorities across Scotland. The workshop tutors include talented disabled musicians and educational arts practitioners who also become vital role models and mentors for future generations.
- 4.2. The organisation encourages and promotes collaboration between Additional Support for Learning units and mainstream schools throughout Scotland. They aim to enhance and maintain the confidence and self-belief of all the people participating in the workshop programmes and open their minds to a whole new musical environment. The unique working model has been presented internationally and extensive empirical research supporting the benefits of the innovative music projects has been carried out.
- 4.3. The organisation recently completed an Essential Songs project with 8 schools from within the wind farm area. This project was supported by Clyde Wind Farm and was very successful. This new project, Recycling Rhythms, is seeking to build upon the success of the first and will work with all 12 primary schools from within the 15km wind farm beneficiary area. Being the second consecutive year that this organisation has delivered a music related project in schools, the Clyde Wind Farm Fund sees this as the final year of support for such a project until the school rolls substantially change through progression of pupils to secondary education. This will also give pupils an opportunity over the next 3 years to be involved in other types of activity, funded by Clyde Wind Farm, while at primary school.
- 4.4. This year long project is designed to teach young people how to play drums and complex percussive rhythm sequences. The project will culminate with participants making their own drums and performing as part of a musical group to a public audience.
- 4.5. Primary Schools that have indicated a desire to take part are Abington, Crawford, Biggar, Crawfordjohn, Leadhills, Lamington, Coulter, Tinto, Douglas, Rigside, Wiston and Carmichael.

The Project aims to:

- create fully inclusive drumming groups.
- introduce an opportunity for learning skills in drumming, chanting, singing and song writing
- awaken latent artistic skills and potential
- improve level of concentration and focus
- raise confidence, self-esteem and aspirations
- increase social and communication skills
- discover and develop the next generation of potential musicians, technicians and performers

- 4.6. Without the support of the Clyde Wind Farm, this project will not be able to go ahead as there is no funding available from the participating schools to support such a project.
- 4.7. Total costs of £79,117, for which financial support is being sought, have been identified by the applicant who is seeking up to 75% or £59,337. This application scored 75% during the assessment process. The applicant has indicated that the remainder of the funding will be provided by Creative Scotland.

5. Community Consultations

- 5.1. It is a requirement of the Clyde Wind Farm Fund that a consultation on all applications to the Community Fund, small and main schemes, will be undertaken with the Clyde Wind Farm Community Group, a constituted group with representatives from 6 Community Councils within the eligible area of the Community Fund. A single consultation feedback on behalf of the whole group was supplied in relation to this application. These responses were duly noted and considered during the final assessment process with the applicants providing further supportive evidence where appropriate.

6. Employee Implications

- 6.1. There are no employee implications arising from this report.

7. Financial Implications

- 7.1. To date, SSE has made payments into the Clyde Wind Farm Fund of £2,319,787.
- 7.2. The Community Fund (70%) has received income of £1,623,850. Awards of £1,228,666 have been approved from current income to support projects and activities. Funding to the value of £469,891 has been drawn down from the Community Fund. At the time of writing this report, there is, therefore, a total balance (including interest) of £758,775 at account with an uncommitted budget of £395,184 available to support eligible Community Fund projects.
- 7.3. Therefore, due to the staggered implementation dates of supported projects and the available funding, there are sufficient funds available to the Community Fund to meet the grant award of £59,337.

8. Other Implications

- 8.1. The risks associated with the projects are focussed on the potential for cost overruns or delays to the programmes. The applicants have indicated that any cost increases will be managed within present budgets subject to agreement from the Clyde Wind Farm Fund on any changes to their proposed projects. This is highly unlikely to have an impact on the Council.
- 8.2. Delays to the programmes will have no impact on the Council. Without the Contributions from the Clyde Wind Farm Fund, it is highly unlikely that the projects outlined will proceed.

9. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 9.1. This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy and therefore no impact assessment is required.
- 9.2. All necessary consultation arrangements have taken place.

Colin McDowall
Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)

21 October 2013

Link(s) to Council Objectives/Values

- Improve health and increase physical activity
- Effective and efficient use of resources
- Partnership working, community leadership and engagement

Previous References

- Report to Enterprise Resources Committee of 20 May 2009 – Clyde Wind Farm - Community Benefit Agreement
- Report to Enterprise resources Committee of 17 March 2010 – Clyde Windfarm Fund

List of Background Papers

None

Contact for Further Information

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

John Archibald, Economic Development Officer

Ext: 5181 (Tel: 01698 455171)

E-mail: John.archibald@southlanarkshire.gov.uk