

Report to:	Executive Committee
Date of Meeting:	24 June 2020
Report by:	Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)

Subject:	Renewable Energy and Community Benefit Funds - COVID-19 Update and Review
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1 The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ Seek approval to increase the total funds to groups through the Community Benefit Funds: Renewable Energy Fund (REF) and Clyde Windfarm Fund by £200,000 to assist local communities' response and resilience to the COVID-19 crisis.

2. Recommendation(s)

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

- (1) that the additional funding allocation of £200,000 to support community organisations during the COVID-19 pandemic and discontinuation of those priority measures to new application from the Renewable Energy Fund (REF) and SSE Clyde Windfarm Fund, as set out in paragraphs 4.5 to 4.8, be approved.

3. Background

3.1 At the Executive Committee of 13 May 2020, the Committee homologated the decision taken by the Chief Executive under his delegated authority, in consultation with the Group Leaders, to make changes to the administration of the Renewable Energy Fund (REF) and Clyde Windfarm Fund.

3.2 The changes approved establishing two new funding priorities to support community organisations during COVID-19 period. The two priorities are:

Priority 1: Immediate Support Fund

Between £500 to £5,000 available to groups and organisations, including Community Councils, to deliver immediate assistance and relief due to COVID-19

Priority 2: 3rd Sector Resilience Fund

Between £500 to £10,000 available to constituted community groups, community based sports and cultural clubs and charitable organisations to relieve pressure through the loss of income or ongoing costs arising from COVID-19.

- 3.3 The new COVID-19 funding priorities were available from 24 April 2020 and were widely publicised through the Council's web site and social media and through direct e-mails to 3rd sector groups and partners.
- 3.4 The 13 May 2020 report identified an initial £600,000 of REF to be set aside for these measures, with £200,000 drawn down from the SSE Clyde Development Fund which would be available in areas out with the 10km REF eligibility boundaries. It was proposed the initiative would initially run to 31 July 2020 and then be reviewed, informed by the level of demand for the funds. As set out below, the level of interest in the fund has been such it is appropriate to bring forward that review hence this report to the Committee.

4. REF COVID-19 Update and Review

- 4.1 As at 5 June 2020, 96 applications (appendix 1) have been started on the Grantvisor system of which 49 have been completed and submitted. Of these, 19 have been approved and grant awarded. Of the 96 applications:
- 42 are seeking funding for priority 1 immediate response activity
 - 54 for priority 2 support of the 3rd sector.
- 4.2 The total potential grant value of the 96 applications, if all are completed, submitted and were awarded full grants would be £592,254, which would be close to the existing cap of £600,000. Of the 96 applications started, 35 are allocated to the Clyde Development Fund and these have a total grant value, if all approved, of £218,000 against an initial cap of £200,000 i.e. exceeding funding allocation by £18,000. There is a potential that not all applications will be fully completed and submitted or that applicants may request more or less than the initial funding indicated.
- 4.3 Applicants have been allowed to develop their applications, however, have been made aware the available funds are currently limited and not all applications may be successful in being awarded grants. Based on the applications submitted to date, there is a real prospect that there may not be sufficient funds allocated to make grant awards to all applicants and there are no funds available for any new applications.
- 4.4 The initial demand for the fund was very high at about 20 – 30 enquiries a week, however, the enquiries have reduced to between 5 – 10 a week. It is noted that no other publicity raising has been undertaken since the initial launch.
- 4.5 From the initial demand and the ongoing steady flow of applications, it is considered that there remains a demand and need for the funds, albeit not at the level of the initial launch.
- 4.6 There remains available funds within the REF and Clyde Community Fund of £2.5m and the SSE Clyde Development Fund of £287k. As such, there is scope to increase funding for COVID-19 response and at the same time maintain sufficient funds available for 'mainstream' projects.
- 4.7 It is considered that an increase of funding by £200,000, with £100,000 of this coming from the Clyde Development Fund, would be sufficient to meet current demands and applications over the next 2 months.

- 4.8 Based on the above, it is also proposed that priority measures should close to new applications once the total of £800,000 grant applications are within the system, divided between the £500,000 limit for the REF and the £300,000 limit from the Clyde Development Fund.
- 4.9 By undertaking this proposed proportionate increase, funds will remain available for community projects with £1 million available immediately for other community projects within the REF and £1.7 million within the Clyde Community and Development Fund.
- 5. Employee Implications**
- 5.1 Administering the funds is undertaken within Planning and Economic Development Services and the changes may increase the number of applications and workload. This can currently be resourced, however, the position will be monitored.
- 6. Financial Implications**
- 6.1 There are no financial implications to the Council. No funding offers are issued without income from the respective developments being in place. If funds are not increased as indicated above, some community groups may be rejected for funding support.
- 7. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications**
- 7.1 The use of the funds as outlined would meet the requirements to maintain thriving sustainable communities.
- 8. Other Implications**
- 8.1 The actual need for each grants is assessed during their appraisal and going forward this will take into account the gradual lifting stages of the COVID-19 lockdown and assess the risk and need of each project.
- 9. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements**
- 9.1 This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy and, therefore, no impact assessment is required.
- 9.2 Consultation has taken place in the development of the priorities with, Legal, Finance and the Community Engagement team. The Community Engagement team are consulted on the COVID-19 Immediate Support priority applications to ensure complementarily with local activity.

Michael McGlynn
Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)

9 June 2020

Link(s) to Council Values/Ambitions/Objectives

- Promote economic growth and tackling disadvantage
- Making communities safer and stronger and sustainable
- Focused on people and their needs
- Support our communities by tackling disadvantage and deprivation and supporting aspiration

Previous References

- Executive Committee Report – 13th May 2020 Renewable Energy and Community Benefit Funds - COVID-19

List of Background Papers

- **None**

Contact for Further Information

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

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Appendix 1 Full List of all applications

Organisation Name	Project	Organisation Town	COVID Fund	Grant value
Uddingston and Bothwell Action Group	Uddingston and Bothwell Action Group	Uddingston	Immediate Response	5000
Greyfriars Parish Church	Lanarkhelps	Lanark	Immediate Response	5000
Cambuslang out of school care project	Cambuslang out of school care project	Cambuslang	3rd Sector Resilience	4000
The Rural Development Trust	RDT COVID-19 Resilience	Rigside	3rd Sector Resilience	10000
Dalserf Bowling Club	Dalserf Bowling Club	Dalserf	3rd Sector Resilience	10000
Blackwood Homes & Care	CleverCogs	Blackwood	Immediate Response	3500
Carluke Primrose Orchestral Flutes	Carluke Primrose Orchestral Flutes - Annual Concert	Carluke	3rd Sector Resilience	1500
Scouts	Covid 19 continuation	East Kilbride	Immediate Response	500
4th Carluke Boys' Brigade	4th Carluke Boys' Brigade - Fundraising Quiz & April subs	Carluke	3rd Sector Resilience	770
Supporting our Community	Community Covid Support	Hamilton	Immediate Response	5000
Stonehouse Men's Shed	Stonehouse Men's Shed Furlough	Stonehouse	3rd Sector Resilience	2232
Coalburn Silver Band	Coalburn Silver Band - Renewable Energy COVID-19 3rd Sector Resilience Fund	Coalburn	3rd Sector Resilience	5000
Loaves and Fishes Food Bank East Kilbride	Supporting Vulnerable People in East Kilbride	East Kilbride	Immediate Response	700
112th Lanarkshire Scout Group	3rd Sector Resilience Fund - Missed Fundraising Event	Hamilton	Immediate Response	3000
Darcy's Equine Assisted Learning Centre CIC	Stable Future	East Kilbride	3rd Sector Resilience	8400
Share Alike	Share Alike - Community Foodbank	East Kilbride	Immediate Response	5000
SAVI Kids	SAVI Kids	East Kilbride	Immediate Response	8400
Shine Youth Music Theatre	Shine Youth Music Theatre	Carluke	3rd Sector Resilience	9200
Gillespie Centre	Gillespie Centre	Biggar	3rd Sector Resilience	10000
Samaritans of Lanarkshire	3rd Sector Resilience Fund	Hamilton	3rd Sector Resilience	2000
Lanark Community Development Trust	REF COVID RESPONSE	Lanark	3rd Sector Resilience	10000
Carnwath Bowling Club	Carnwath Bowling Club	Carnwath	3rd Sector Resilience	3000
Childcare in the Community	Childcare in the Community Out of School care	Hamilton	3rd Sector Resilience	10000
Coalburn Community Council	Community Council COVID -19 response	Coalburn	Immediate Response	5000

Organisation Name	Project	Organisation Town	COVID Fund	Grant value
Blantyre Youth Development Team	BYDT COVID 19	Blantyre	3rd Sector Resilience	8990
Abington Bowling Club	Abington Bowling Club	Abington	Immediate Response	1500
Coalburn Miners Welfare Bowling Club	Rescue Package	Lanarkshire	3rd Sector Resilience	10000
Coalburn Miners Welfare Charitable Society	COVID19-Assistance	Lanark	3rd Sector Resilience	10000
Healthy Valleys	Healthy Valleys Clydesdale Community COVID 19 Response	Lanark	3rd Sector Resilience	10000
Leadhills and Wanlockhead Railway	Covid 19 Grant	Leadhills	3rd Sector Resilience	5000
Crawfordjohn Public Hall Association	Covid-19 Crawfordjohn Hall revenue costs	Crawfordjohn	3rd Sector Resilience	5000
Blantyre Soccer Academy	Jimmy Whelan	Blantyre	Immediate Response	4500
Strathaven and Glassford Community Council	Community support across Strathaven and Glassford during COVID-19	Glassford	Immediate Response	5000
Leadhills Reading Society	Leadhills Heritage Trust Compensation Award	Leadhills	3rd Sector Resilience	1400
Lesmahagow Juniors Football Club	REF 3rd Sector Resilience Fund	Lesmahagow	3rd Sector Resilience	5000
Lanarkshire Association for Mental Health	Mental Health Support	Hamilton	Immediate Response	4628.4
Law Bowling Club	Law Bowling Club	Law	Immediate Response	8250
Whitlawburn Community Resource Centre	Whitlawburn Community Resource Centre	Whitlawburn	Immediate Response	2000
Lunar Gymnastics	Allison Canning	Lesmahagow	3rd Sector Resilience	10000
Hope Amplified	Community Empowerment Project	Cambuslang	Immediate Response	5000
Greyfriars Parish Church	Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark	Lanark	3rd Sector Resilience	10000
Lanarkshire Community Foodbank Ltd	Lanarkshire Community Foodbank	Hamilton	Immediate Response	1600
Action for Children - Whole Systems Service	Whole Systems Service	Glasgow	Immediate Response	5000
Healthy Valleys	Healthy Valleys Covid Response	Lanark	Immediate Response	5000
Lanarkshire Association for Mental Health	Organisational Resilience	Hamilton	3rd Sector Resilience	7650
Strathaven Golf Club	Strathaven Golf Club - South Lanarkshire Community Benefit COVID 19 Grant	Strathaven	3rd Sector Resilience	10000
Particip8 Overton	Camglen Covid-19 Hub Foodbank Support	Rutherglen	Immediate Response	4000
PAMIS (Promoting A More Inclusive Society)	Callum's Caravan	Hamilton	3rd Sector Resilience	5004
Uddingston Bowling & Tennis Club	Ongoing revenue costs for Uddingston Tennis Club	Uddingston	3rd Sector Resilience	7500

Organisation Name	Project	Organisation Town	COVID Fund	Grant value
Impact Dance academy	Impact Dance academy	Carluke	3rd Sector Resilience	2000
Leadhills Golf Club	Funds to keep the golf club going due to lock down re coronavirus and loss of membership fees	Leadhills	3rd Sector Resilience	6000
Biggar Youth Project	Biggar Youth Project Covid-19	Biggar	3rd Sector Resilience	1050
Biggar Rugby Football Club	Covid 19 Survival	Biggar	3rd Sector Resilience	10000
REACH Lanarkshire Autism	Autism Fundraising Replacement	Cambuslang	3rd Sector Resilience	5000
Stonehouse Bowling Club	Stonehouse Bowling Club	Stonehouse	3rd Sector Resilience	5000
Blackwood and Kirkmuirhill Resilience Group	Blackwood and Kirkmuirhill Resilience Group	Kirkmuirhill	3rd Sector Resilience	4500
HALFWAY & DISTRICT BOWLING CLUB	COVER ONGOING REVENUE COSTS	Cambuslang	3rd Sector Resilience	10000
Castlehill Bowling Club	Castlehill Bowling Club	Carluke	3rd Sector Resilience	9000
The Miracle Foundation Scio	Mariam Tariq	Hamilton	Immediate Response	10000
Douglas Community Council	Douglas Community Council Covid-19 Response	Douglas	Immediate Response	5000
Liber8 (Lanarkshire) Ltd	Liber8's Counselling Service	Hamilton	Immediate Response	8200
The Haven (Caring Counselling Communication Centre)	The Haven (Wellbeing Support Service)	Blantyre	3rd Sector Resilience	10000
Stonehouse Community Council	Corona virus support	Stonehouse	Immediate Response	5000
Equitots Lanarkshire Community Interest Company	Covid19 Assistance	Carluke	3rd Sector Resilience	700
Agape Wellbeing	Agape Wellbeing	East Kilbride	Immediate Response	1500
Regenfx Youth Trust	Families Together Programme	Larkhall	Immediate Response	1000
Skills Exchange SCIO	Connecting Online	East Kilbride	Immediate Response	5330
Tinto P.S & N.C	Pupil Recovery Programme	Biggar	Immediate Response	9600
The Haven (Caring Counselling Communication Centre)	The Haven (Wellbeing Support Service)	Blantyre	Immediate Response	5000
New Lanark Trust	3rd Sector Resilience Fund	Lanark	3rd Sector Resilience	10000
Torrance House Golf Club	Torrance House Golf Club	East Kilbride	3rd Sector Resilience	15000
St Mary's For All SCIO	Virtual Connections	Hamilton	Immediate Response	9000
St Athanasius Community Hall Management Committee	St Athanasius Community Hall Utilities Funding	Carluke	Immediate Response	1000
Hamilton After School Project	Social Distancing	Hamilton	Immediate Response	9000

Organisation Name	Project	Organisation Town	COVID Fund	Grant value
COVEY Befriending	Community Volunteers Enabling You (COVEY Befriending)	Hamilton	Immediate Response	8650
TABS (The Acting Bairns of Stonehouse)	TABS	Stonehouse	3rd Sector Resilience	10000
Kirkton Parish Church	Children in Poverty Vouchers	Carluke	Immediate Response	5000
Biggar Little Festival	Biggar Little Festival 2020	Biggar	3rd Sector Resilience	10000
Forth & District Development Trust	Covid 19 Response	Forth	Immediate Response	2000
Lanark Area Tenants and Residents Association (LanTRA)	Keep Calm, Keep Connected	Lanark	Immediate Response	1500
Strathaven LTC	Preparing for return to play with Social Distancing	Strathaven	Immediate Response	6500
Overtoun Park Bowling Club	Survival of club	Overtoun	3rd Sector Resilience	6500
Outreach Community Church	OCC Resilience	Strathaven	3rd Sector Resilience	8000
Law Bowling Club	Bowling club financial aid	Carluke	3rd Sector Resilience	9500
Uddingston cricket and sports club	Uddingston Cricket and Sports Club	Uddingston	Immediate Response	7000
Older and Active in East Kilbride	Older and Active in East Kilbride	East Kilbride	3rd Sector Resilience	14000
Paradventures	Loan All Terrain wheelchairs to families	Lanark	3rd Sector Resilience	7500
Strathaven Rugby Football Club	Lost opportunities for fundraising due to Covid 19	Strathaven	3rd Sector Resilience	10000
Mobilize Music Project	Mobilize Music Project	East Kilbride	Immediate Response	1500
East Kilbride Citizens Advice Bureau	EKCAB	East Kilbride	Immediate Response	5000
Forth St Paul's Parish Church	Forth Community Project	Lanark	3rd Sector Resilience	6000
Older and Active in East Kilbride	Older and Active in East Kilbride	East Kilbride	3rd Sector Resilience	10000
Crawfordjohn Heritage Venture Trust	Revenue costs COVID-1	Crawfordjohn	3rd Sector Resilience	1500
Blantyre Community Council	Official Blantyre Corona Virus Support	Blantyre,	Immediate Response	5000
East Kilbride (and District) Gymnastics Club	East Kilbride (and District) Gymnastics Club	East Kilbride	3rd Sector Resilience	10000
Hollandbush Golf club	Loss of income covid-19	Lesmahagow	3rd Sector Resilience	10000