

Report

Report to:	Education Resources Committee
Date of Meeting:	1 June 2021
Report by:	Executive Director (Education Resources)

Subject:	Enhanced Summer Programme 2021
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ♦ provide an outline of planned provision to deliver the Scottish Government funded Enhanced Summer Programme 2021 in South Lanarkshire.

2. Recommendation(s)

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

- (1) to note that planning and preparation for a 2021 enhanced summer programme is underway;
- (2) to note that the Council will deliver this programme with a variety of Third Sector Partners and organisations;
- (3) to note that the share of the Scottish Government funding allocation is £882,000; and
- (4) to note that more detailed information of the plans in place, including locations, will be provided to a future meeting of the Committee and will comply with the guiding principles set by the Scottish Government.

3. Background

3.1. In March 2021, the Scottish Government announced funding of £20 million to local authorities to help improve the wellbeing of children, young people and their families over the summer period, who have been disproportionately affected during the pandemic and might not otherwise have access to activities and wider support, during the school holidays, allowing them to socialise, play and reconnect within their local communities. The funding has been split into 2 parts:

- National Summer Offer - £5m for national partners (Play Scotland, SportScotland, Creative Scotland, Education Scotland, and others); and a
- Targeted Summer Offer - £15m to local authorities to deliver enhanced holiday activities and experiences, integrating food and wider family support where needed to support the Enhanced Summer Programme 2021.

3.2. This investment is part of Scottish Government's social renewal agenda following the pandemic and is focused on getting it right for every child by promoting the wellbeing of children and young people as Scotland recovers from Covid-19. It also complements wider investment in holiday provision, support through free school meal replacement for those eligible for free school meals on the basis of low income, and wider investment in education recovery. South Lanarkshire has been awarded £882,000.

3.3. Targeted groups identified to benefit from the £882,000 funding include:

- Children from low income households
- Children from those priority family groups identified in the Tackling Child Poverty Delivery Plan: larger families; families with a disabled child or adult; young mothers; families with children under one; and minority ethnic families
- Children from families who have been shielding during the pandemic and whose ability to engage in activities and socialise will have been curtailed
- Children with a disability or additional support need
- Care experienced children and young people
- Young carers
- Children in need of protection
- Children supported by a child's plan
- Children who have undergone significant transitions during lockdown or will experience them this year, including starting in Early Learning and Childcare, starting primary school, moving to secondary school and leaving school

3.4. The focus of delivery will be on:

- Providing opportunities to (re)connect with friends, peers, wider community and the outdoors, as well as with trusted adults
- Providing opportunities for children and young people to play, be active and enjoy themselves.
- Equity
- Engagement

Guided by the principles of:

- Co-creation with children, young people and families
- Building on existing services, assets and knowledge of what works (see point 4 below).
- Partnership working and coordination

3.5. Appendix 1 provides the Scottish Government's Driver Diagram that underpins the planning and delivery process to restore the well-being of children and young people during summer 2021 and this will be the driver for delivery of the programme in South Lanarkshire.

3.6. It is also important to build on what has worked well in previous years. In the last 3 years, Youth, Family and Community Learning Service has delivered additional summer provision on average to over 600 primary aged children, who are at particular risk of hunger, chaotic life experiences and learning loss.

3.7. Parents and participants reported that the provision gave their children the opportunity to meet new friends, develop routines, engage in healthy activities including a nutritious breakfast and healthy lunch. This inclusive approach ensured that young people were not left isolated over the summer and provided the opportunity to engage with and meet up with their friends and other young people.

3.8. Parents and carers also reported improvements in their children's cognitive development and behaviours which they have attributed to the engagement of their child in the summer club provision. Young people returning to school after the summer

were conveying positive examples of their experiences and the impact of the programme. Head Teachers and parents reported that several of the children who had attended the Holiday Club were more settled and engaged with their schooling more readily than in previous years.

- 3.9. During 2020, the “sensational summer sessions” model was used effectively to provide the emergency childcare provision for keyworkers and services for vulnerable children and families. Over 450 children and young people up to the age of 13 accessed this provision.
- 3.10. The Enhanced Summer Programme for 2021, will take account of what we know has had a positive impact on children, young people and families over the last few years.

4. Enhanced Summer Programme 2021

- 4.1. The targeted provision will see the continuation and expansion of the “sensational summer sessions” to include young people aged 12 to 17 and their families, with the additional support of the voluntary sector partners located in local communities, as well as the wider Youth, Family and Community Learning Service (Universal Connections), over 6 days per week, including evenings and weekends.
- 4.2. This will ensure the delivery of creative, powerful, innovative and inclusive experiences for targeted young people and their families, across South Lanarkshire, in line with the Enhanced Summer Programme recommendations.
- 4.3. Provision of food throughout the summer sessions will aid in the combat of holiday hunger. Young people and families will be better able to support their child/family members’ health and wellbeing through taking part in food related learning programmes involving diet and nutrition, cooking on a budget and growing of food.
- 4.4. This provision will be underpinned with the creation of a bank of resources and equipment that will also aid future years planning and delivery.
- 4.5. The strength of provision will be underpinned through the Community Learning and Development (CLD) approach of continually engaging families and young people in the development, review and evaluation of services provided. Ongoing engagement has taken place throughout the pandemic using remote engagement programmes such as social media, in addition to information provided by Education Psychological Services COVID-19 surveys, feedback on programmes that have been delivered previously, and through engagement and dialogue with partners and young people in forums such as the West Partnership.
- 4.6. All provision will be themed and will use a variety of approaches including nutrition and cooking; drama, music, dance and silent disco; sports and fitness; interactive arts; activity packs; photography; Awards; STEM; tournaments; challenges and competitions; wheeled sports; outdoor learning; strategy and gaming; volunteering; family learning; and horticulture and food growing. Further examples are included in Appendix 2.
- 4.7. As well as the delivery of activity programmes, personalised support such as the provision of passes to local attractions or leisure services will also be available for some families.

- 4.8. Outdoor activities where the utilisation of community assets and green spaces including skateparks, and country parks, providing opportunities for family activities will be provided.
- 4.9. In addition to this, families will be supported and guided including signposting to services, outreach support and financial supports that they are entitled to receive.
- 4.10. The opportunity to engage with and involve the Third Sector and partners in the delivery of the Enhanced Summer Programme. Regen:FX have a recognised and proven track record of the awarding, administration, and reporting on Safer South Lanarkshire grant funding for Holiday Diversion Programme and Weekend Diversionary Youth Work.
- 4.11. The range of expected partners is contained within Appendix 3.

5. Employee Implications

- 5.1. Education Resources will seek to enlist its own staff, in the first instance, to work over the summer period e.g. YFCL staff, Support Services staff plus also other Resources such as Facilities staff (kitchen, janitorial and cleaning). Rates of pay will be consistent with that established in previous summer programmes.
- 5.2. Funding will be used for resources, and to cover the costs to run the summer activities (council staff costs) and to engage external organisations to be involved in and support individual local programmes, thereby enhancing the level of provision across the authority area.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1. Scottish Government Funding of £882k has been given to enhance and provide additional summer activity, to support the health and wellbeing of children, young people and families.

7. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

- 7.1. There are no climate change, sustainability or environmental implications in terms of the recommendations in this report.

8. Other Implications

- 8.1. There are no risk implications in terms of the recommendations in this report.

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 on the programme will be carried out with all appropriate stakeholders including children, young people, families, staff and partners, to ensure that needs are identified and met

Tony McDaid
Executive Director (Education Resources)

13 May 2021

Link(s) to Council Values/Ambitions/Objectives

- Protect vulnerable children, young people and adults
- Deliver better health and social care outcomes for all
- Support communities by tackling disadvantage and deprivation, and supporting aspiration
- Improve achievement, raise educational attainment and support lifelong learning
- Ensure schools and other places of learning are inspirational
- Encourage participation in physical and cultural activities

Previous References

None

List of Background Papers

None

Contact for Further Information

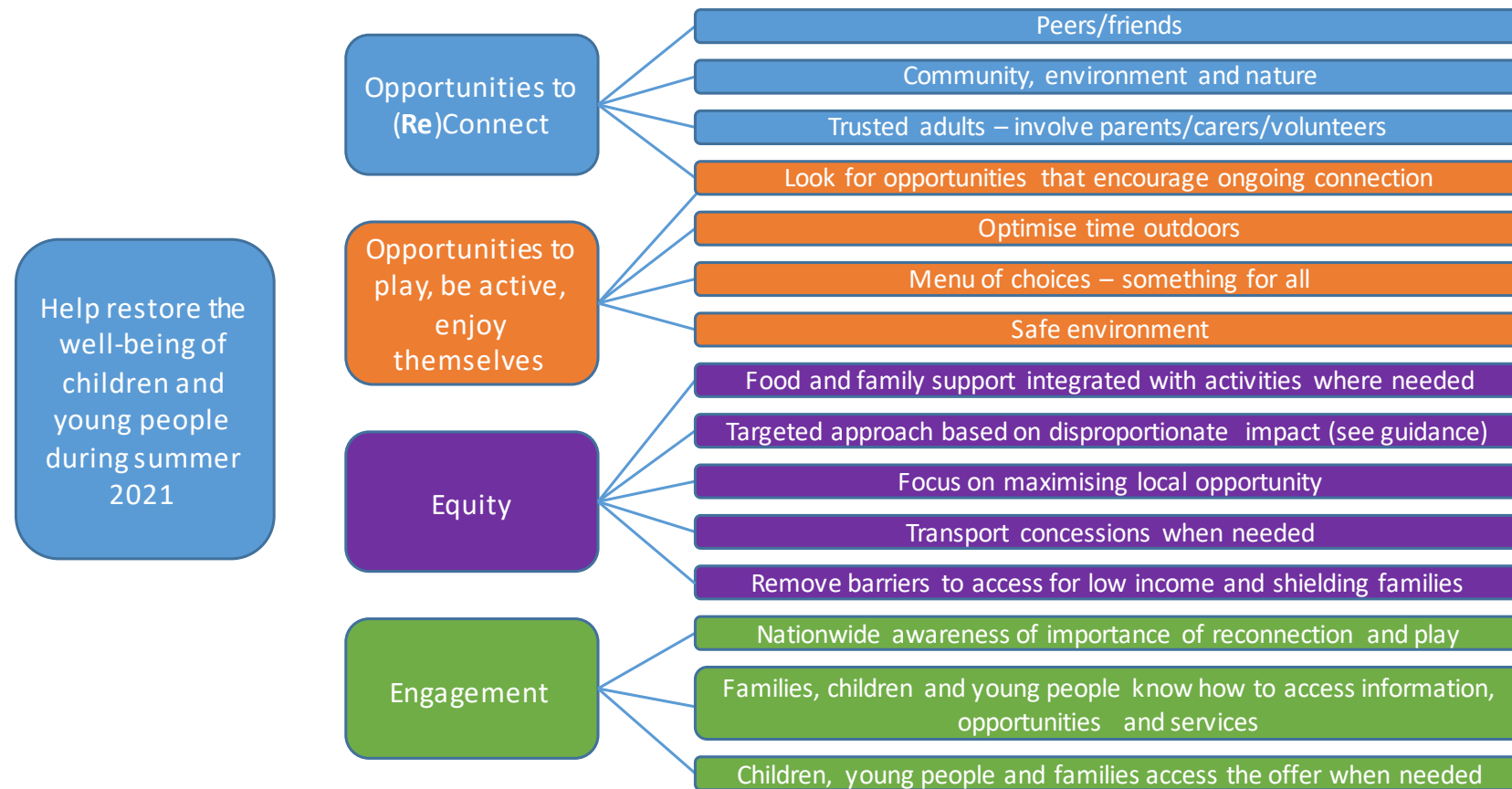
If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

Lynn Sherry, Head of Education (Support Services and School Estate)

Ext: 5620 (Tel: 01698 455620)

E-mail: lynn.sherry@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Appendix 1 – Scottish Government Summer Offer Driver Diagram



A rights based, stigma-free approach, shaped by what children, young people and their families tell us, aligned with GIRFEC
Build on what we have - enhance and co-ordinate services and assets locally and nationally - in partnership

Appendix 2 – Programme Examples

Themed provision may include:

- Rainforest
- Harry Potter
- Shrek
- Forest school
- Science and Space
- Carnival and Circus
- Sun and Sea
- Superheroes
- STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics)

Examples of activities include:

- Super Science events/ family kits to take home - in person and online
- Arts festivals
- Music sessions
- Drama sessions
- Dance sessions
- Visual arts
- Live music events
- Coding
- Photo Walk
- Family picnics
- Outdoor Cinema/ Movies under the stars
- Silent discos
- Sports tuition
- Community Chef - tours around different areas
- Family leisure activities – swimming etc.
- Child Smile

Examples of the packs include:

- 'Grow your own Sunflower'
- STEM (variety of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths activities)
- Craft-It (variety of build your bird hut)
- Family pamper and treat (includes toiletries for parents, sanitary products, popcorn, sweets, hot chocolate / marshmallows, activity books and 'Pud in a Mug')
- Non-Baking Baking (due to popularity of the make your own cakes amongst the young people and families, make your own empire biscuits was created)
- Making Food Fun@home Part 1 – Fit food books have been introduced, with children and their families learning how to make Lentil Soup. Resources to make soup were made available within each bag. Food books were used as an evaluation tool to reflect on the activities and what the young people enjoyed or didn't enjoy
- Making Food Fun@home Part 2 – Utilising the Fit food books, young people and their families were given the ingredients to make their own Pizza. Food books were used as an evaluation tool to reflect on the activities
- Back2School drawstring busy bag – In preparation for the return to school, the busy bags for the last week of the summer will include pencil, pens, sharpener, ruler, pencil case, notepad and design your own drawstring bags (these can be used for gym time at school in due course).
- Family Cook Off
- Family Sports Day
- Family Movie Pack

Appendix 3 – Partners

Partner (internal and external) identified to be involved include:

- Regen:FX Youth Trust,
- Health Valleys,
- H.I.P.Y.
- Terminal One,
- Biggar Youth Project
- South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture trust
- Voluntary Action South Lanarkshire
- ARCH,
- CLD Local Action Planning Groups,
- Kinship Care Association,
- Intensive Family Support Service Team,
- NHS Lanarkshire,
- Forrest Friends,
- City of Play
- Other 3rd sector/voluntary organisations are invited to submit applications by 7th June.