

ANGUS COUNCIL

POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE - 26 OCTOBER 2021

COVID-19 FUNDING - DISCRETIONARY FUNDING PROJECT APPROVALS

REPORT BY IAN LORIMER, DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

ABSTRACT

This report seeks member agreement to use Scottish Government COVID-19 funding provided to the Council to help support local people and communities where the Council has a degree of discretion over the use of the funding.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee:

- (i) Approves the proposed use of Level 4 Flexible Fund COVID-19 funding as set out in this report and Appendix 1;
- (ii) Approves the additional allocation to a previous Level 4 Flexible Fund COVID-19 Funding award as set out in Appendix 2;
- (iii) Approves the proposed use of Local Authority Top Up Administration Grant COVID-19 funding as set out in this report and Appendix 3.

2. ALIGNMENT TO THE COUNCIL PLAN

2.1 This report contributes to the following strategic priorities in the Angus Council Plan, we want:

- To maximize inclusion and reduce inequalities
- Our communities to be strong, resilient and led by citizens

2.2 In light of the COVID-19 pandemic we have looked again at our priorities to best support our people and our businesses in Angus to recover and renew over the short, medium and longer term. We have looked at our response to COVID-19, the strong partnerships developed, the pace at which we responded and how we adapted our ways of working to support our citizens.

2.3 As will be evident from the report contents, the Council and Third Sector Partners continue to be on the front line in providing support to people in response to and recovery from the pandemic and these support actions will contribute to many of the priorities and ambitions in the Council Plan.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 Reference is made to Report 216/21 considered by the Council at its meeting of 24 June 2021, which gave background on the range of grants being provided and how these would be managed through a mixture of delegated authority and seeking prior member approval. This report covers the use of funding which although intended by the Scottish Government to help Councils provide support to local communities involves discretion and choice on how the Council does that.

3.2 Responding to the pandemic continues to be a huge challenge and this report therefore seeks member agreement to use some of the Government COVID-19 funding provided to the Council where the Council is able to use the funding on a discretionary basis.

4. CURRENT POSITION

- 4.1 Level 4 Flexible Fund, Angus Council Allocation £653k
- 4.2 Angus has received a Flexible Fund allocation of £653,000, of which £220,091 has been spent to date, and £432,909 has been committed but remains to be spent.
- 4.3 Local Authority Top Up Administration Grant Tranche 1, Angus Allocation £256K
- 4.4 Angus has received COVID19 Administration Grant Funding of £256,000, of which £180,369 has been spent to date, and £75,631 has been committed but remains to be spent.

5. PROPOSALS

- 5.1 Details of the individual projects for which formal approval is sought are contained in Appendix 1. Appendix 2 seeks approval for an increase in funding to a previously agreed project. Appendix 3 details a request for use of Administration Grant funding for a project displaced due to prioritised Covid-19 response work. The Grants Assessment Panel and Grants Sub-Group of officers views were sought regarding the proposed projects and the recommendations are noted in Appendices 1 to 3.
- 5.2 Further reports will be presented to Council/Committee, if and when further project approvals are sought during the financial year.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The financial impact is covered by additional government funding provided to the Council as COVID-19 funding for specific schemes the Government has asked Councils to administer on their behalf.
- 6.2 A summary of the financial implications are outlined below if the Council are minded to agree all the projects recommended for approval.
- 6.3 Level 4 Flexible Fund, Angus Council Allocation £653k

Angus Allocation Flexible Fund	Spend to date	Current Balance	Additional costs per this report	Balance minus costs per this report
£653,000	£220,091	£432,909	£255,147	£177,762

- 6.4 Local Authority Top Up Administration Grant Tranche 1, Angus Allocation £256K

Angus Allocation Admin Grant	Spend to date	Current Balance	Additional costs per this report	Balance minus costs per this report
£256,000	£180,369	£ 75,631	£63,494	£12,137

- 6.5 The funding which has yet to be committed remains available for COVID-19 response.

7. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 7.1 An Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out and is attached.

NOTE: Background papers, as detailed by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) relied on to a material extent in preparing the above report is:

[Angus Council – 24 June 2021, Covid-19 Funding - Discretionary Funding Project Approvals, Report 216/21](#)

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EMAIL DETAILS: Finance@angus.gov.uk

APPENDIX 1

PROJECTS FOR WHICH FORMAL APPROVAL IS SOUGHT FROM LEVEL 4 FLEXIBLE FUND

Project Ref	GSG.16
Applicant	Angus Council Education and Welfare Rights
Amount	£200,000
Description	<p>A test of change project for a period of 2 years, that seeks to offer a long-term sustainable approach to benefit and debt advice and management. This project aligns with the council plan and the priority to tackle child poverty</p> <p>Financial Wellbeing staff will be placed in schools to offer support to families and staff. Dedicated Financial Wellbeing staff will be attached to schools to support staff with dealing with financial crisis intervention for families in need. This will involve ensuring all entitlements are claimed, benefit decisions challenged where appropriate and debt advice and intervention given. Advice and support can be provided also for families with children who have additional support needs to ensure they are receiving appropriate disability payments, etc.</p> <p>There are 59 schools in Angus, with 15,263 pupils (excluding nursery/early years places).</p> <p>The latest child poverty figures show that 4273 children in Angus are living in poverty with levels expected to increase further. Covid has had a devastating impact on the income of many families and the impact continues and will continue for the foreseeable future.</p> <p>Analysis of data from Welfare Rights (WR) case recording systems illustrated that only 20% of people helped by WR every year have school aged children in the household. This tells us that we are not reaching many families in Angus despite targeted social media campaigns and raising awareness through other avenues.</p> <p>It is proposed that 3 staff be employed on a 23 month fixed term basis based on current and historic levels of casework carried by the existing WR team and an anticipated level of needs across Angus schools. The posts will be a mixture of casework/attendance at school events etc and partly development work.</p> <p>One post will lead on the development work such as establishing relationships with schools and embedding pathways and resources to assist parents seeking help through school/education channels, linking in with the Council's commitment to taking a service design approach to improve services, drive out inefficiencies and better engage their communities and service users in leading these changes. This post will also carry complex cases such as benefit appeals work and complex challenges/complex debt work including evictions, court actions and statutory debt options.</p> <p>The other posts will carry out lower acuity work such as benefit checks, information gathering for complex cases, attendance at school events and attending to crisis intervention. Work will be ongoing throughout the year and not just in school term time as casework does not stop for the school holidays.</p> <p>Initially there will be 5 schools included in order to establish the project, develop pathways and embed into school practices, develop materials and provide awareness raising with staff. The intention will be for the project staff to be dynamic and respond to need across the initial 5 schools and in conjunction with head teachers input as it is expected that needs will differ from school to school. Following the initial development work which is envisaged to take place during the first 4 months of the project it is intended to bring more schools in to the project as and when capacity allows.</p>

	<p>This proposal is about adapting and enhancing services to meet the needs of families most at risk of financial crisis. Staff will provide advice and assistance to families to ensure income is maximized and appropriate debt advice given.</p> <p>It also supports existing work around the child poverty agenda and can contribute to improving attainment, cost of the school day and crisis intervention in the school context by bringing services directly to people. It will also contribute by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • strengthening relationships with families and partners • reducing stigma and removing barriers to accessing support • signposting/referring to additional support; Holistic Approach • sharing learning between financial Wellbeing staff and teachers / school staff <p>The main performance indicators will be as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of families assisted • Total Financial gains achieved • Free School Meals new entitlements identified • Education Maintenance Allowances and School Clothing Grants uptake/new entitlements • As well as key performance data as above there will also be “softer” outcomes reported by way of case studies, client evaluation surveys and school/head teacher surveys <p>It is not possible to say definitively what the projected outputs will be in relation to numbers of families who will be assisted because this will depend on demand however based on enquiry levels to the current WR service and evidence of previous attendance at school related events we would project that in the first year that 200- 300 families would be assisted with financial issues. This should allow more time for the more intense development work to be carried out alongside casework during the first year of the project. During the course of the second year it is envisaged that this will increase to helping at least 400 families as the project rolls out across more schools and less time is needed for development work</p> <p>This investment will also free up some time within the existing WR team to support other people across Angus communities who need help, support and advice.</p>
Project will benefit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • families with children attending Angus Schools • children and young people • teachers/school staff
Costs	3 x Financial Wellbeing staff for 23 months, training and equipment
Alignment with grant criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An ‘existing need’ that was known to exist prior to Covid-19, but there is additionality as a direct result of Covid-19 • Covid-19 Response • Covid-19 Recovery • Working in Partnership
Recommendation	APPROVE

Project Ref	GSG.20
Applicant	Lunan Bay Communities Partnership (LBCP)
Amount	£11,704.61
Description	Funding requested for costs to extend the Lunan Bay Ranger Service for 4 months, on a reduced capacity from 1st Nov 2021 to 28th Feb 2022.

	<p>The LBCP was formed in response to local issues arising from COVID-19 restrictions on public access and behaviour. The Lunan Bay Ranger Service seeks to deal with immediate effects of the pandemic on the community and visitors, increase awareness of environment and enhance the outdoor experience.</p> <p>For the 4 month period of funding requested, the focus of the Ranger Service will be on visitor management and education (with positive effect on social and mental wellbeing)</p> <p>Funding will allow applicant to continue the LBCP Lunan Bay Ranger Service for 4 months, from 1st Nov 2021 to 28th Feb 2022. By extending the contracts of the rangers the group will continue to work together with the local community and Angus Council to ensure that the area is a safe and inviting visitor destination.</p> <p>The funding will bridge a funding gap allowing the group to retain rangers until longer-term funding is secured for a permanent ranger service, meaning the service can continue without disruption</p> <p>Current Funding: The LBCP Ranger Project is currently funded through the Better Places Green Recovery Fund. This funding ends 31st October 2021.</p> <p>Continuation Funding: Funding for ongoing infrastructure support of the Ranger Project is being requested from the Scottish Government's Rural Communities Ideas into Action (RCIA) fund. Funding via this route if successful will become available in December 2021, for funding to be in place by end Feb 2022.</p>
Project will benefit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitors to Lunan Bay • Residents of the local communities and Angus Schools • Local landowners and land managers • Local and national NGOs involved with visitor management, environmental education, and biodiversity stewardship. • Local and national legislators • Angus Council services
Costs	<p>2 x Part Time Ranger Salaries for 4 months (£11,396.81) Mileage Allowance (£307.80)</p> <p>Applicant proposes to deliver a stripped back Ranger service over the winter period at Lunan Bay, with a primary focus on community education to recover from the effect of the pandemic.</p> <p>There are several other associated costs for this project that the applicant has withdrawn from this funding request. Applicant has indicated that these costs will be supported by alternative funding streams.</p>
Alignment with grant criteria	<p>An 'existing need' that was known to exist prior to Covid-19, but there is additionality as a direct result of Covid-19</p> <p>The LBCP was established after March 2020, largely in response to the problems with increased visitor numbers engendered by COVID-19 lockdown. The area has seen increasing numbers of individuals and groups who are not complying with guidance on access and wild camping. This behaviour places increasing levels of stress on residents, landowners, responsible visitors, the landscape, and biodiversity and wildlife.</p> <p>Partnership Working</p> <p>LBCP are working closely with Angus Council, the Landowner and other partners and have developed good relationships.</p>

	<p>The group has developed a good relationship with the landowner and has reached agreement with them to allow toilets on site. Rangers are a vital part of this agreement in terms of maintenance and security.</p> <p>Grant Guidance Flexible Funding Grant Purpose, as outlined by Scottish Government:</p> <p>“To strengthen local authority responses to meet emerging needs and support people in their communities struggling with the restrictions and guidance at all protection levels, particularly those at risk through health and social inequalities.</p> <p>This support could cover the same types of support currently delivered including information and advice, access to food and medicines, and practical and emotional support; and, administration costs to support delivery (e.g. strengthening the National Assistance Helpline) and liaison and co-ordination with 3rd sector.</p> <p>It will be for Local Government to use this funding flexibly for this purpose.</p> <p>This approach should support a more sustainable and flexible response by local authorities to meeting need within their local communities which does not need to stop and start as areas move in and out of level 4, and can continue as we hope to come out of the lockdown restrictions.”</p> <p>Additional supporting information Kevin Robertson (Manager - Environmental Services) and Alison Smith (Interim Director of Vibrant Communities and Sustainable Growth) provided supportive information to assist with assessors’ enquiries and explained how the project supports Council priorities. They discussed additional benefits, for example how the work of the group relieves pressure on council services and supporting our communities and supports wider strategy around toilet provision.</p>
Recommendation	APPROVE

Project Ref	GSG.21
Applicant	DD8 Music
Amount	£20,000
Description	<p>The Charity will employ a 2nd Development worker and commission specialist Sessional Workers to increase skills, resources and activities.</p> <p>DD8 Music provide opportunities to enjoy and participate in music, arts and cultural activities. This project forms part of their recovery and sustainability strategy and seeks to increase capacity and diversify services to address mental health and wellbeing, and skills development in response to increased and emerging needs as a result of the impact of Covid-19. They will provide practical and emotional support to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improve mental and physical health and reduce social inequalities • increase access to services • increase skills and experience • nurture talent and creativity • improve pathways and create positive futures <p>The main performance indicators will be as follows:</p> <p>1. Number of additional activities 3 additional tuition/group work music activities per week, Avg 3 face to face hours per week for 52 weeks = 156 additional face to face activity hours</p> <p>2. Number of new projects 5 new projects co-designed with our young people and community inputs</p>

	<p>Avg 6 weeks per project, 2 hours face to face time per week = 60 new face to face project hours</p> <p>3. Number of new partnerships Proposals under negotiation pending additional resource in place = 5 new partnerships</p> <p>4. Number of young people participating Additional Activities, New Projects, Partnership projects = 40 new young people participating</p> <p>5. Introduction of activities for ASN Additional Activities, New Projects, Partnership projects = 10-20 new people participating</p> <p>6. Employment Funding will pay for / create resource to provide 1 Part Time Post, 100-140 Sessional hours commissioned, 1 Part Time Kickstarter Trainee</p> <p>7. Volunteering Opportunities Supported volunteering opportunities created with additional activities and projects = 8 new skilled volunteering roles created with training and development opportunities</p>
Project will benefit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kirriemuir and Angus residents • Young people • Volunteers • Partners
Costs	1 additional development worker and sessional workers support for 1 year
Alignment with grant criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An 'existing need' that was known to exist prior to Covid-19, but there is additionality as a direct result of Covid-19 • Covid-19 Response • Covid-19 Recovery • Working in Partnership
Recommendation	APPROVE

Project Ref	GSG.22
Applicant	HOPE Garden
Amount	£21,000 (part funding towards total project costs of £34,150)
Description	<p>Arbroath HOPE Garden support trainees with learning disabilities, volunteers, staff, partners and communities in Angus by growing and providing affordable, fresh organic produce.</p> <p>Improving facilities, ensuring they are accessible, hygienic and fit for purpose is a critical first step to recovery from Covid-19. People who attend HOPE Garden are some of the most vulnerable in society, who have endured the full extent of Covid-19 protection level restrictions. Isolation, loneliness and fear have had a big impact, this project offers a safe outdoor environment where people can feel safe to enjoy reintegrating with society and can begin to really live again.</p> <p>Upgrading facilities will open up Hope to more people, including larger numbers of trainees and volunteers, and new trainees such as wheelchair users to whom the toilet facilities are currently inaccessible. This project will help to maximize inclusion and reduce inequalities.</p> <p>HOPE is largely an outdoor space – an environment that many people are currently more comfortable in than an inside setting. This leaves HOPE well placed to offer training, volunteering and socializing opportunities to</p>

	vulnerable people who may not yet be comfortable returning to or attending an inside setting.
Project will benefit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HOPE trainees • Volunteers • Staff • Visitors
Costs	Installation of permanent accessible toilet and washing facilities which can meet the higher standards of hygiene required to combat COVID-19 and other viruses. Without this investment which is part funded by HOPE themselves the ability and capacity to support people will be significantly reduced as a direct result of COVID-19 risks
Alignment with grant criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An 'existing need' that was known to exist prior to Covid-19, but there is additionality as a direct result of Covid-19 • Covid-19 Response • Covid-19 Recovery • Working in Partnership
Recommendation	<p>APPROVE – WITH CONDITIONS:</p> <p>Should Members be minded to approve this request, payment will be paid in 2 instalments as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pre-Build Planning Costs (25%) 2. Post Planning Approval Build Costs,(75%) i.e. once the project has been confirmed and a contractor appointed.

Project Ref	GSG.23
Applicant	Santa Claus in Montrose
Amount	£812
Description	<p>Funding requested to purchase PPE and hygiene equipment to improve safety at this year's Montrose Christmas event.</p> <p>The charity was unable to organise an event last year due to Covid-19 restrictions and have been unable to carry out fundraising activities to raise money towards costs of additional safety measures required due to Covid-19.</p> <p>Financial support through grants will enable applicant to hold the event this year, and to make it as safe as possible for volunteers and community. They will work in partnership with Angus Council and other agencies to organise and hold a safe event. The project will take place during November / December 2021</p>
Project will benefit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Montrose and Angus residents • Families, children, young people and the wider community • Volunteers • Event attendees • Local Businesses
Costs	PPE - Hi Viz Jackets, Safety Helmets, Sanitising stations
Alignment with grant criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An 'existing need' that was known to exist prior to Covid-19, but there is additionality as a direct result of Covid-19 • Covid-19 Recovery • Working in Partnership
Recommendation	APPROVE WITH CONDITIONS

	Subject to restriction levels allowing for events to take place, timing of PPE purchase as close to the event date as possible
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Total funding requested and recommended for approval = £255,147

AMENDMENT TO APPLICATION PREVIOUSLY APPROVED AT POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE 31 AUGUST 2021, REPORT NO 266/21 FOR WHICH FORMAL APPROVAL IS SOUGHT FROM LEVEL 4 FLEXIBLE FUND

Project Ref	GSG.14 Community Cafes
Applicant	Angus Council Communities Team
Amount	£1,630
Description	Additional allocation to reflect update to rent costs plus £1,500 budget for Ingredients for food for AHLI x 12 months (in place of donations)
Recommendation	APPROVE

Total funding requested £1,630

PROJECTS FOR WHICH FORMAL APPROVAL IS SOUGHT FROM LOCAL AUTHORITY TOP UP ADMINISTRATION GRANT TRANCHE 1

Project Ref	GSG.24
Applicant	AC Economic Development Shared Apprenticeship Programme
Amount	£63,494
Description	<p>Funding requested to support Shared Apprenticeship Programme to support more young people entering the construction sector as Modern Apprentices</p> <p>Staff resources and priorities for the last 16 months have been reallocated to supporting business support grants on behalf of the Scottish Government. £21.5m of grants to over 2500 businesses across 19 separate grants have been administered by the team.</p> <p>All planned work particularly with the Business Sectors team in delivering against the Council Plan priorities had to stop. As a result, many of the business led projects were not progressed over that 18-month period.</p> <p>The team has now moved into recovery and have developed actions to ensure support is given to all business sectors across Angus as part of COVID recovery. However, this has highlighted a specific issue with the construction sector and our Shared Apprenticeship programme.</p> <p>Shared Apprenticeship Ltd (SAL)</p> <p>SAL was set up in 2015/16 by Angus Council and Dundee & Angus College to offset labour shortages within the construction sector and support more young people entering the sector as Modern Apprentices (MA). SAL employed 10 x 16-24 year olds each year over four years (total 40 MA's) as they undertook a CITB approved MA.</p> <p>Over 2020 and 2021 through COVID restrictions the construction sector closed down and the young people were furloughed via SAL. This also meant that there was no recruitment and there was no available resource within Economic Development to review, refine and develop the SAL programme as the sector moves into recovery.</p> <p>Additional project management resource now would allow Recovery activity to be faster and ensure the ambitions for the programme of expansion remain on track.</p> <p>The key benefits and impact of this project are to support SAL's longer term sustainability by identifying the specific skills needs of the construction sector post COVID, aligning those with the delivery model to ensure robust industry led approach to meet increasing sector demand and to secure additional private/public sector resource support and funding</p> <p>Without this funding for specific Project Management support to undertake a full review and demand analysis it is likely the SAL programme will lose its formal Skills Development Scotland support and its industry engagement making it less effective and sustainable as a skills programme.</p>
Costs	A 12-month temporary LG10 economic development officer (SAL) post An operational revenue budget for survey, creative marketing activity
Alignment with grant criteria	Criteria as outlined in Grant Offer Letter: To support Local Authorities in mitigating the costs associated with distributing grants to businesses on behalf of the Scottish Government
Recommendation	APPROVE
Total funding requested £63,494	



Equality Impact/Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment Form

(To be completed with reference to Guidance Notes)

Step 1

Name of Proposal (includes e.g. budget savings, committee reports, strategies, policies, procedures, service reviews, functions):

COVID-19 FUNDING - DISCRETIONARY FUNDING PROJECT APPROVALS

Step 2

Is this only a **screening** Equality Impact Assessment Yes/No

(A) If Yes, please choose from the following options **all** reasons why a full EIA/FSD is not required:

(i) It does not impact on people Yes/No

(ii) It is a percentage increase in fees which has no differential impact on protected characteristics Yes/No

(iii) It is for information only Yes/No

(iv) It is reflective e.g. of budget spend over a financial year Yes/No

(v) It is technical Yes/No

If you have answered yes to any of points above, please go to **Step 16**, and sign off the Assessment.

(B) If you have answered No to the above, please indicate the following:

Is this a full Equality Impact Assessment Yes/~~No~~

Is this a Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment ~~Yes~~/No

If you have answered Yes to either or both of the above, continue with Step 3.

If your proposal is a **strategy** please ensure you complete Step 13 which is the Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment.

Step 3

(i) Lead Directorate/Service:

Finance (for reporting purposes only – delivery has been by a number of services)

(ii) Are there any **relevant** statutory requirements affecting this proposal? If so, please describe.

NONE

(iii) What is the aim of the proposal? Please give full details:

To seek member agreement to use Government COVID-19 funding provided to the Council where Council is able to use the funding on a discretionary basis.

(iv) Is it a new proposal? Yes/~~No~~ Please indicate OR

Is it a review of e.g. an existing budget saving, report, strategy, policy, service review, procedure or function? ~~Yes~~/No Please indicate

Step 4: Which people does your proposal involve or have consequences for?

Please indicate all which apply:

Employees Yes/~~No~~

Job Applicants Yes/~~No~~

Service users Yes/~~No~~

Members of the public Yes/~~No~~

Step 5: List the evidence/data/research that has been used in this assessment (links to data sources, information etc which you may find useful are in the Guidance). This could include:

Internal data (e.g. customer satisfaction surveys; equality monitoring data; customer complaints).

Grant Criteria and assessment considers Angus Council Plan

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic we have looked again at our priorities to best support our people and our businesses in Angus to recover and renew over the short, medium and longer term. From the COVID-19 pandemic we have seen more than ever the value of the work done in our communities and the benefit of working in partnership. As we focus on recovery and renewal, we need to learn from and build on the experiences of the last few months.

'Four strategic priorities' We want:

- Angus to be a go-to place for businesses
- To maximize inclusion and reduce inequalities
- Our communities to be strong, resilient and led by citizens
- Angus Council to be efficient and effective

Internal consultation (e.g. with staff, trade unions and any other services affected).

Consultation with Angus Council Staff through Grants Assessment Panel and Grants Sub-Group meetings.

External data (e.g. Census, equality reports, equality evidence finder, performance reports, research, available statistics)

Grant Criteria and assessment considers Scottish Government Strategic Framework

The pandemic is having significant impacts on our society and communities. Protecting and supporting people during these unparalleled times has been the focus of the Scottish Government, and that will continue. The pandemic also has global economic consequences unlike any we have seen before. Businesses and individuals have made extraordinary sacrifices as we tackled the pandemic together.

'The Four Harms';

- direct health,
- indirect health,
- economic,
- and social impacts

External consultation (e.g. partner organisations, national organisations, community groups, other councils).

Consultation with Third Sector Interface for Angus Voluntary Action Angus, and Third Sector Partners through Grants Assessment Panel and Grants Sub-Group meetings.

Other (general information as appropriate).

Step 6: Evidence Gaps.

Are there any gaps in the equality information you currently hold? Yes/No

If yes, please state what they are, and what measures you will take to obtain the evidence you need.

Step 7: Are there potential differential impacts on protected characteristic groups? Please complete for each group, including details of the potential impact on those affected. Please remember to take into account any particular impact resulting from **Covid-19**.

Please state if there is a potentially positive, negative, neutral or unknown impact for each group. Please state the reason(s) why.

Age

Impact Positive

There are benefits for young people in particular, throughout the recommended projects: reduction in child poverty (financial wellbeing in schools), nurture talent/creative future (music project), ensuring safety (Santa in Montrose), and Shared Apprenticeships recovery.

Disability

Impact Positive

HOPE Garden support trainees with learning disabilities, volunteers, staff, partners and communities in Angus. This project will help to maximize inclusion and reduce inequalities.

DD8 Music Introduction of activities for ASN, and disabled access to Lunan Bay through tackling antisocial parking.

Gender reassignment

Impact Unknown

Marriage and Civil Partnership

Impact Unknown

Pregnancy/Maternity

Impact Unknown

Race - (includes Gypsy Travellers)

Impact Unknown

Religion or Belief

Impact Positive

Christmas lights event celebrates religious festival

Sex

Impact Positive

Covid has had a disproportionate negative impact on women and any initiative which aims to improve the lives of families will have a greater positive impact on women, who are statistically the main carers.

Sexual orientation

Impact Unknown

Step 8: Consultation with any of the groups potentially affected

If you have consulted with any group potentially affected, please give details of how this was done and what the results were.

None

If you have not consulted with any group potentially affected, how have you ensured that you can make an informed decision about mitigating action of any negative impact (Step 9)?

No negative impacts have been identified

Step 9: What mitigating steps will be taken to remove or reduce potentially negative impacts?

Not required

Step 10: If a potentially negative impact has been identified, please state below the justification.

Not applicable

Step 11: In what way does this proposal contribute to any or all of the public sector equality duty to: eliminate unlawful discrimination; advance equality of opportunity; and foster good relations between people of different protected characteristics?

The actions taken are considered to have had a positive impact some of that likely to have been more apparent and important for some groups with protected characteristics as described in Step 7. If these applications are successful, it will result in the advancement of equality of opportunity by contributing to tackling poverty, loneliness and isolation, poor physical and mental health and wellbeing, and other inequalities.

Step 12: Is there any action which could be taken to advance equalities in relation to this proposal?

No

Step 13: FAIRER SCOTLAND DUTY

This step is only applicable to **strategies** which are key, high level decisions. If your proposal is **not** a strategy, please leave this Step blank, and go to Step 14.

Step 14: What arrangements will be put in place to monitor and review the Equality Impact/Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment?

Support arrangements are subject to ongoing review as part of the Council's pandemic response

Step 15: Where will this Equality Impact/Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment be published?

As part of the committee report

Step 16: Sign off and Authorisation. Please state name, post, and date for each:

Prepared by: Victoria Gibbons, Acting Grants Officer 24 September 2021

Reviewed by: Doreen Philips, Snr Practitioner Equalities 30 September 2021

Approved by: Ian Lorimer, Director of Finance, 18 October 2021

NB. There are several worked examples of separate EIA and FSD Assessments in the Guidance which may be of use to you.
