

LC 2023_08_09

Present: Andrew Field (CEC); Douglas Tharby, Abby Cunningham, Sally Millar, Bruce Ryan, Susan Rae, Jack Caldwell (all LC steering group)

- AF: PB budget is likely to sit with AF, possibly via a rearrangement for 'Children and Families' budget headings. (AF's bit is in Place directory.)
- AF: hence spend will come from Children and Education resources.
- LC SG: we think £2k to £3k minimum, but would ask for £5k. See estimate previously sent to AF.
- LC SG: we have cut out creche and transport costs (no-one applied for transport costs, creche not well used)
- AF: up to £5k committed, but it would be nice to come in at less.
- LC SG: we can manage this. For example, facepainter would be better value and cheaper than creche.
- AF: let's avoid staff-time costs discussion right now.
- LC SG: somethings only Jade can do (mostly GDPR-afflicted stuff or procurement). Others can do support of applicants, social media. AF can bear costs of CEC services.
- LC SG: We have started convo with Emma Candy, Julie Dickson (corporate services) re voting mechanism.
- AF: my bit is looking for placement.
- o SF: this would give support and work experience in PB, as supplementary support.
- LC SG Links with CEC PB group?
- AF that team is very small. Need more planning if I'm to do PB – will need a committee report, inc dialogue with CEC PB team. So do this year, then do evaluation as basis of report. Would be written by me. Would want to know what money is spent on, how much is disbursed, how it engages with citizens, value to CEC and community?

*** Action: AF to advise what other data should be gathered.

- LC SG we have always made data available. Please tell us what you want to know now, so we can build it into process. We'll commit to doing evaluation
- Discussion of relationships with community bodies. Data is also available from PB Scotland but current generation of CEC folk don't know about it.
- AF we are restarting/re-evaluating so many things post covid.
- LC SG: we want to make an inclusive thing. We need to keep up to date with the community
- AF: it will be interesting to see what sorts of projects apply to LC.
- LC: people you might involve in evaluation are the service providers. Need to appoint an independent evaluator
- AF: need to evaluate volunteering aspects

Bruce to find paper from 2010 estimating PB volunteer input.

- LC SG: allowing voters to choose them would give a steer on community wishes.
- LC SG: projects different cos £5k is worth less. Other strictures also constrain the projects: orgs apply for whatever fits.
- AF: Jade is evaluating community grants fund