

Leith Chooses meeting 22 May 2024

Present: Bruce (minutes), Don, Douglas, Jade, Sally, Susan (online)

Apologies: Abby, Jack, Tremaine

1 2022-23 instance reports

- Jade has received and put onto Dropbox all but three reports
 - AUGB – which is normally very organised
 - Himalayan Centre – which had asked for an extension until the end of April
 - Sikh Sanjog – which may be having problems due to staff turnover – relevant staff have left
 - Action: Jade to chase **hard**, saying they will not be eligible next year unless they submit reports
- Among other issues with reports, Dr Bells supplied incorrect costs.
 - Action: steering group to ensure that 2024-25 applicants have full clarity on reporting requirements
 - This would be via a zoom meeting soon to spell out requirements.
- Action: steering group to add reporting to the 2024-25 timeline
 - Jade to check when Tremaine will be available for this and any other 'timeline' discussions
- Steering group briefly reviewed a couple of the reports.
 - The questions ask organisations to report on outcomes and impact, as well as spending.
 - Action: steering group to consider using some of the 'good news' stories to publicise good works stemming from PB in general and LC in particular.

2 Jade's parental leave

- Action: steering group to go through what Jade needs to complete before she goes on leave, and what needs to be handed over to other steering group members.

3 2024-25 instance

- The steering group agreed the following dates:
 - In-person voting day: Saturday 18 January 2025
 - Online voting: very start of Monday 20 January to very end of Monday 3 February. (This is so CEC staff are on hand to fix any tech issues stemming from CEC servers etc.)
 - Hence open applications mid/late August 2024, close early October. The usual extension will take this to mid/late October
- Action: steering group to discuss timeline and finalise dates asap, possibly on 5 June
- Action: Bruce to circulate 2023-24 versions of application form and guidance notes for review by steering group. (This shouldn't be onerous – we 'hammered' them last year.)
- Decision: we will retain possibility of double-voting.
 - We can't vet online votes without accessing voter-data that GDPR bans us from having.
 - Enabling both types of voting enables more voters to vote.
- Action: Jade or Tremaine to ensure the 'have you also voted in-person' box works.
- Action: steering group to ensure that stall-holders and other early entrants receive voter wristbands

4 LC self-evaluation

4.1 2023-24 evaluation

- Action: Bruce to replace 'SG' with 'steering group' (people may read 'SG' as 'Scottish Government')
- Decision: the report will not name the steering group members other than Cllrs Rae and Caldwell, so no change needed for this
- Action: Bruce to emphasise the need for ongoing support from council officers, especially at the start of the 'requesting support from CEC' section.

- Action: Bruce to forward the final version to Susan, reminding her to send this on to Andrew Field, and invite him to give us feedback on his vision of the future of LC, ideally on 26 June.

4.2 'over the years' evaluation

- Steering group to discuss this on 3 July