

Agenda Item	8.
Report No	CPB 14/19

## CashBack for Communities - Use of Proceeds of Crime funding to support community projects in Highland

### Summary

Following a request at the Community Planning Board on 3 October 2019, this report provides information on the use of Proceeds of Crime funding to support community projects in Highland.

### 1. Background

CashBack for Communities is a Scottish Government programme which takes money seized from criminals under the proceeds of crime legislation and invests them in young people. Since 2008, £110 million has been committed to community initiatives to improve the quality of life of young people right across Scotland. Nearly 2 million activities and opportunities for young people have been delivered so far.

Phase 4 of CashBack has a stronger focus on helping tackle Scotland's inequalities – raising the attainment, ambition and aspirations of those young people across Scotland who are disadvantaged by:-

- Living in areas of deprivation; and
- Being unemployed, not in education or training; and/or
- Being excluded, or at risk of exclusion from school; and/or
- Being at risk of being involved in antisocial behaviour, offending/re-offending

17 of Scotland's sporting, charity, arts, community and youth organisations will deliver projects under the themes of Journey to Employment, Creativity, Diversionary Youth Work and Sport for Change.

Activities will range from diversionary youth work to more long-term potentially life-changing intervention projects which turn young people's lives around and provide them the opportunity of getting into employment, education, or volunteering.

### 2. Allocation of Community Cash-back Funding in the Highlands

Since the inception of CashBack for Communities in 2008 the Highlands have received a total of £2,596,321 to support a wide variety of projects supporting young people. Full details of the projects involved and the funding they have received can be found at <https://cashbackforcommunities.org/>.

Table 1 provides details on the funding received by Highland for the 5-year period from 2013 – 2018 and the total number of project activities that have taken place as a result of this funding. To provide context on the funding provided these figures have been shown against the Scottish allocation totals.

To gain an understanding of the funding received by Highland in comparison to other rural communities the figures for the funding allocations received by the Scottish Borders, Aberdeenshire and Argyll & Bute Council areas have been provided. Highland does appear to have fared relatively well in funding support for the five-year period between 2013 -18. Highland accounts for **4.3%** of the Scottish Population and has secured **8.7%** of the Cashback funding allocated in this time period.

Details on the funding proviso for all council areas can be found by accessing the Cashback for Communities link above.

### **CashBack for Communities Funding 2013 – 18**

<b>Year</b>	<b>2013 / 14</b>	<b>2014 / 15</b>	<b>2015/16</b>	<b>2016/17</b>	<b>2017/18</b>	<b>Totals</b>
Scottish Project Cashback Funding	6,987,041	6,348,982	5,730,839	5,304,275	5,404,617	<b>29,775,754</b>
Highland Project Cashback Funding	298,097	210,460	243,824	349,474	203,232	<b>2,596,321</b>
Scottish Project Activities Supported	257,516	232,299	233,268	264,559	35,806	<b>1,023,448</b>
Highland Project Activities Supported	12,361	8,511	9,217	6,163	856	<b>37,108</b>
Aberdeenshire Project Cashback Funding	142,747	172,377	125,710	110,877	36,472	<b>588,183</b>
Scottish Borders Project Cashback Funding	193,997	172,624	184,878	149,575	68,643	<b>769,717</b>
Argyll & Bute Project Cashback Funding	82,897	94,071	116,044	91,576	28,185	<b>412,733</b>

**Table 1**

Activity number represents the number of activities and opportunities that young people have taken advantage of as a result of CashBack for Communities funding. It should be noted that CashBack for Communities partners may have worked with some of the same young people over a number of financial years. Therefore, the total annual activity and opportunity figures might not directly correlate to the number of individual young people who have been involved with CashBack for Communities.

### **3. Annual Proceeds of Criminal Confiscation Orders for Community Cashback Funding**

In addition to the allocation of funding provided the CPB also requested information on what percentage of the money recovered from the proceeds of crime went back into the community. Table 2 details the figures provided by the Scottish Government on finances received from the proceeds of crime and the funding allocated from these proceeds from 2014 – 2018.

When the combined figures for the confiscation orders and the civil recovery orders are compared against the CashBack funding figures it is notable that a high percentage of the reclaimed money does go directly to Cashback funding. Details of how the remainder of the reclaimed money is used were not perused for this report.

**Proceeds from Seizure of Crime Funds – Scotland 2013 to 2018**

<b>CRIMINAL CONFISCATION ORDERS - £</b>						
<b>YEAR</b>	<b>2013/14</b>	<b>2014/15</b>	<b>2015/16</b>	<b>2016/17</b>	<b>2017/18</b>	<b>TOTALS</b>
<b>Value of orders remitted</b>	5,349,253	4,814,677	4,474,044	3,648,387	3,062,596	<b>21,348,957</b>
<b>CIVIL RECOVERY ORDERS - £</b>						
<b>YEAR</b>	<b>2013/14</b>	<b>2014/15</b>	<b>2015/16</b>	<b>2016/17</b>	<b>2017/18</b>	<b>TOTALS</b>
<b>Asset Recovery</b>	2,587,378	3,044,880	2,565,841	1,953,905	1,379,200	<b>11,531,204</b>
<b>Cash Forfeiture</b>	1,820,036	1,543,874	1,147,461	1,530,731	2,180,357	<b>8,222,459</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>4,407,414</b>	<b>4,588,754</b>	<b>3,713,302</b>	<b>3,484,636</b>	<b>3,559,558</b>	<b>19,753,663</b>
<b>COMBINED TOTALS</b>	<b>9,756,667</b>	<b>9,403,431</b>	<b>8,187,346</b>	<b>7,133,023</b>	<b>6,622,154</b>	<b>41,102,620</b>

**Recommendation**

The Board is asked to note the report.

**Report Author:** Group Commander Niall MacLennan – Scottish Fire & Rescue Service

**Date:** 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2019