

Agenda Item	<b>3.a</b>
Report No	<b>BSAC/06/23</b>

## THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL

**Committee:** **Badenoch & Strathspey Area Committee (Special Meeting)**

**Date:** **13 February 2023**

**Report Title:** **Badenoch & Strathspey Repurposing COVID-19 Fund**

**Report By:** **Executive Chief Officer, Communities and Place**

### **1. Purpose/Executive Summary**

- 1.1** It was agreed at a meeting of the Highland Council on 7 January 2021 that Wards with unspent COVID-19 funds could decide to spend this on projects to assist children and adults post covid, especially within deprived areas. Any re-purposing of covid funds should be agreed at the local committee.

### **2. Recommendations**

- 2.1** Members are asked to agree the repurposing of the following COVID-19 funds:

Cairngorm Mountain Trust - Badenoch & Strathspey School Skiing 2023 - £4,068

### **3. Implications**

- 3.1** Resource implications – The resource implications are set out in this report.
- 3.2** Legal implications – Funding will be made to external groups and/or other Council services in line with the Scheme of Delegation and grant guidance.
- 3.3** Community (Equality, Poverty and Rural) impacts – The allocation of funding proposed targets a range of projects which specifically address improved access of outdoor spaces and pursuits to encourage greater use and promote mental wellbeing.
- 3.4** Climate Change / Carbon Clever implications – There are no specific climate change implications.
- 3.5** Risk implications – There are no specific risk implications, and grants will be made following established grant making procedures to minimise risk of project failure.
- 3.6** Gaelic implications – There are no specific Gaelic implications.

## 4. COVID Funds Repurposing

### 4.1 Cairngorm Mountain Trust, Badenoch & Strathspey School Skiing

This project will support P7 school children from all primary schools in Badenoch & Strathspey to Cairngorm Mountain with the opportunity to learn to ski.

Badenoch & Strathspey School Skiing Association (BSSSA) is a volunteer organisation working with schools to co-ordinate an opportunity for primary aged children in Badenoch & Strathspey to ski or snowboard.

Cairngorm Mountain Scotland Ltd (CMSL) wish to support BSSSA to provide a means for all local children to experience Snowsports on the mountain and have offered to cover the costs of ski passes and equipment hire for school children participating in the project who require it.

The ski tuition costs for the project are being covered by BSSSA. The tuition provided is fully inclusive recognising that the needs of pupils can vary, the tuition programme will cater for all pupils offering bespoke support dependant on need including those with learning or physical disabilities. BSSSA will meet any additional expense in staffing or equipment required for participants with additional needs.

Members are asked to agree to repurposing £4,068 from the Ward's COVID-19 budget and to award it to the Cairngorm Mountain Trust to cover the transport costs associated with Badenoch & Strathspey School Skiing for 2023.

Members are also asked to note that the project provides a positive contribution to mitigating the 4 harms of COVID through the delivery of healthy pursuits and outdoor sports.

This funding award will be subject to the Council's normal grant conditions.

## 5. Background Papers

Badenoch & Strathspey Area Committee 15 February 2022 (Items 7 & 8)

[https://www.highland.gov.uk/meetings/meeting/4580/badenoch\\_and\\_strathspey\\_area\\_committee](https://www.highland.gov.uk/meetings/meeting/4580/badenoch_and_strathspey_area_committee)

Badenoch & Strathspey Area Committee 6 February 2023 (item 8)

[https://www.highland.gov.uk/meetings/meeting/4738/badenoch\\_and\\_strathspey\\_area\\_committee](https://www.highland.gov.uk/meetings/meeting/4738/badenoch_and_strathspey_area_committee)

Designation: Executive Chief Officer, Communities & Place

Date: 7 February 2023

Author: Lewis Hannah, Ward Manager