

Art of provoking a backlash

AN ARTIST has come under fire on social media after being awarded a £15,000 grant for a project which claims she will not leave Glasgow for a year so that she can study the effect on her mental health, social life and career.

Ellie Harrison, whose previous projects have included a confetti cannon to fire if there had been a Yes vote in the independence referendum, and a campaign to Bring Back British Rail, is to launch The Glasgow Effect this month.

Funded by Creative Scotland, Ms Harrison is calling it an “action research

project/durational performance”. Its title, The Glasgow Effect, is a well-known phrase for discussing the city’s poor health and low life expectancy.

The project’s Facebook page is illustrated with an image of chips, a stereotypically unhealthy meal, leading to some people to question whether the project would be fixated on the city’s social ills. Comments on Facebook and Twitter said the project was “insulting.”

A Creative Scotland spokesman said: “We await with interest the outcome of her project.”