

ANGUS COUNCIL

POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 10 SEPTEMBER 2002

GRANT AID TO THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR – OVER £500

REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF LEISURE SERVICES

ABSTRACT

To inform members of applications of grants of over £500 and to seek approval to offer financial assistance where appropriate, through the Corporate Grant Aid to the Voluntary Community Sector Scheme.

1. RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended that the Committee agree to :-

The North Angus Members Group of the Scottish Wildlife Trust (SWT) being offered a grant up to the sum of £3,000.

2. BACKGROUND

Following Grant Aid guidelines as laid down by Angus Council, the North Angus Members Group (SWT) made application under category B9 of the guidelines to obtain finance to support work being carried out at the Montrose Basin Wildlife Centre. Details are listed in section 3 below.

3. FINDINGS

NO.	NAME OF ORGANISATION	AMOUNT REQUESTED £	AMOUNT RECOMMENDED £
1	North Angus Members Group	5,000	3,000

Purpose:

SWT is undertaking a major refurbishment of the Visitor Centre at a cost of £122,500. The North Angus Members Group (SWT) is a local voluntary organisation that is endeavouring to raise some funds to help with meeting these costs. The group has requested financial support to assist with part of the upgrading works i.e. the office accommodation that will be heavily utilised by the Wildfowling Warden.

Comments:

It is recognised that the Basin is a very popular attraction with visitors coming from far a field, including those who participate in the sport of wildfowling. With regard to the latter, it should be recognised that the wildfowlers make a significant contribution to the local economy.

It is our view that to promote and develop the sport of wildfowling, the Warden must be located in a base within the Centre where wildfowlers can contact him/her when required. Noting this however, it should be acknowledged that the office accommodation will also be used by the Trust's Teacher/Naturalists who instruct groups of local school children. Taking these factors into account therefore, it is felt that it would be appropriate to offer a grant up to the sum of £3,000 towards the costs required to refurbish this part of the centre.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Provision for corporate grant aid is contained within the 2002/03 Miscellaneous Services, Corporate Grant Aid to the Voluntary/Community Sector Scheme section of the Council's revenue budget and the amount set out in this report can be contained within the total allocated.

5. HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

There are no human rights implications associated with this report.

6. CONSULTATION

The Chief Executive, the Director of Law & Administration and the Director of Finance have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

JOHN R ZIMNY
DIRECTOR OF LEISURE SERVICES

BACKGROUND PAPERS

NOTE: No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information), were relied on to any material extent in preparing this report.