

ITEM No. 3

Report No 713/96

ANGUS COUNCIL

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE

5 SEPTEMBER 1996

SUBJECT: CONSERVATION GRANTS

REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF PLANNING, TRANSPORT & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Abstract: This report presents the case for delegating the decision to award Conservation Grants to the Director of Planning, Transport & Economic Development.

1 RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the power to approve Conservation Grants in compliance with the Council's rules and regulations be delegated to the Director of Planning, Transport and Economic Development.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The Council operates a discretionary Conservation Grants Scheme. The rules in respect of the scheme were inherited from Angus District Council, have been well tried and tested over a period of time and have ensured a consistent and fair approach. Grants are generally limited to £1,000 but have been increased under exceptional circumstances, most particularly where traditional Angus stone slated roofs have been involved.
- 2.2 The reports prepared for Committee approval of individual grants have rarely generated any comment or discussion as most are straight-forward in full compliance of the guidelines. To reduce the workload on members and to speed up the service to applicants, the delegation of decision making to the Director of Planning, Transport and Economic Development have merit.

3 DELEGATION GUIDELINES

- 3.1 As indicated above, the majority of grants are below the £1,000 threshold and are uncontentious but occasionally an application is received which raises unique, new or possibly contentious issues or are outwith the Council's rules and regulations. Under such circumstances, referral would still be made to Committee and with it the requisite consultation with the Directors of Finance and Law and Administration.
- 3.2 As at present, the Director of Planning, Transport and Economic Development will be responsible for monitoring the uptake of grants against the budget and a register of grants issued under delegation would be maintained.

4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are no additional financial implications.

5 CONSULTATION

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

6 CONCLUSION**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 the above Report.

AA/JJ/KW
28 August 1996

Alex Anderson
Director of Planning, Transport & Economic Development