

ANGUS COUNCIL

PLANNING AND TRANSPORT POLICY COMMITTEE

28 JANUARY 1999

SUBJECT: FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION TO CREATE

REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND TRANSPORT

**Abstract: CREATE has requested a financial contribution of £6,000 from the Council to cover CREATE'S future activity up to the end of the financial year 1999/2000.**

**1 RECOMMENDATION**

- 1.1 It is recommended that the Committee agree to contribute £6,000 from the Transport Policy Revenue Budget for 1998/99 as Angus Council's contribution to membership of CREATE up to the end of March 2000.

**2 BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The Campaign for Rail Electrification Aberdeen to Edinburgh (CREATE) Steering Group meeting on 27 November 1998 considered Member Authority financial contributions for the period up to the end of March 2000. In particular the level of future contributions was discussed in relation to:-

- The current financial position and balance of the CREATE account.
- Future public relations activities and administrative support.
- Current contribution levels and opportunities to widen categories of membership to other bodies including local enterprise companies.

- 2.2 The significant opportunities available to promote the CREATE case and the need to considerably raise the campaign profile over the next year to fifteen months commencing with the run up to elections to the Scottish Parliament was recognised by the Steering Group. Indeed this unique opportunity for CREATE to raise awareness and support for its aims among key decision makers was stressed by several of the consultants bidding to provide public relations services for CREATE, including the successful consultants appointed by the Steering Group.

- 2.3 In order to secure adequate funding to progress the CREATE agenda with renewed vigour, the Steering Group agreed that Member Councils be requested to consider a financial contribution of £6,000 each to cover the period up to end of March 2000.

**3 DISCUSSION**

- 3.1 In addition to the electrification of the East Coast Main Line from Edinburgh to Aberdeen, which remains the long term objective, CREATE provides a forum for considering and influencing the role of railways in local and national transport policy. Angus Council and its predecessors have continued to be active members of CREATE through financially supporting the Campaign, participating in the Steering Group and promoting relevant policies (e.g. via the Angus Local Plan).

- 3.2 From an Angus perspective consideration needs to be given to local rail services and infrastructure as well as strategic electrification issues, including the links and priorities between local and wider requirements. This is recognised in the Council's Public Transport Policy Statement which encompasses both local and wider rail issues.
- 3.3 The White Paper on an Integrated Transport Policy for Scotland highlights the role of relevant partnerships in developing wider transport strategies. CREATE can provide an input to this in respect of rail passenger and rail freight issues.

#### **4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 Angus Council has previously contributed £4,000 to cover CREATE's activities up to the end of the financial year 1998/99 (report 108/98 to the Planning and Transport Policy Committee on 29 January 1998 refers). This contribution was drawn from the Transport Policy Revenue Budget for 1997/98.
- 4.2 A contribution of £6,000 to meet CREATE's activities up to the end of March 2000 can be met from the Transport Policy Revenue Budget for 1998/99 with £3,000 drawn from Supplies and Services (Subscriptions) and £3,000 vired from Third Party Payments.

#### **5 CONSULTATION**

- 5.1 The Chief Executive and Directors of Finance and Law & Administration have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

#### **6 CONCLUSION**

- 6.1 Continued membership of CREATE is consistent with and helps deliver the Council's key themes and corporate priorities. The increased financial contribution requested by CREATE is required to support a change in step of the Campaign's activities over the next fifteen months which is viewed as a crucial period.

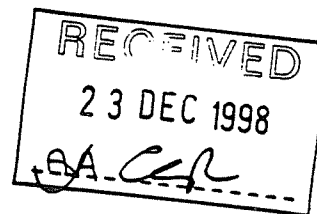
#### **NOTE**

The following background paper, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) was relied on to a material extent in preparing the above Report.

- Letter from CREATE Secretary dated 21 December 1998.

AA/CGR/IAL  
18 January 1999

Alex Anderson  
Director of Planning and Transport



Our Ref: S: T 5/4 16-12mon.doc  
Contact: Robert Dickson Tel. 523324  
Date: 21 December 1998

Mr Alex Anderson  
Director of Planning & Transport  
Angus Council  
James House  
St James Road  
FORFAR  
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Dear Mr Anderson

#### CREATE STEERING GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS

Please find enclosed a draft minute of the last meeting held in Arbroath on 27 November 1998. From this minute you will note that the Steering Group resolved to seek funding for the period up to end March 2000 of £6,000 per Member authority. This increase would allow a significantly higher level of activity for the Campaign and could enable a part-time Campaign Manager to be appointed in addition to the public relations consultant.

I would be grateful if you could confirm that your authority will provide their contributions for the period 1999/2000, as this will allow me to finalise the CREATE budget for next year.

Yours sincerely,

Robert Dickson  
Secretary

