

## ANGUS COUNCIL

## ENVIRONMENTAL AND LEISURE SERVICES COMMITTEE – 16 OCTOBER 2003

## ARTS AND HERITAGE GRANT AID

## REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF LEISURE SERVICES

**ABSTRACT**

This report informs members of the Arts and Heritage Grant Aid application of £500 or less which has been dealt with since 28 August 2003 and to seek approval to offer financial assistance for applications for grants above £500 where appropriate through the Arts and Heritage section of the Corporate Grant Aid to the Voluntary/Community Sector Scheme.

**1. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the Committee agrees to: -

- a) note the award of less than £500 made since 28 August 2003
- b) offer a grant of £1,000 to Eassie & Nevay Community Association
- c) reject a grant request of £500 to Forfar Dramatic Society

**2. BACKGROUND**

**2.1** Applications for grant aid which fall within the Arts and Heritage Section of the Council's Scheme for Grant Aid to the Voluntary/Community Sector have been dealt with and awards made. The process of considering the applications has been carried out according to the Scheme approved by Council. Applications for grants up to £500 are dealt with by the Director, and applications for grants above £500 are considered by this Committee.

**2.2** For members' information, the undernoted application has been dealt with, which requested assistance towards annual running costs which provides arts or heritage events or facilities for the public: -

ORGANISATION	AMOUNT REQUESTED £	AMOUNT OFFERED £
Forfar Instrumental Band	300	300
Forfar Arts Guild	400	300
Montrose Society	400	400
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1100</b>	<b>1000</b>

**2.3** Eassie & Nevay Community Association have applied for a grant of £5000 to organise a series of 100 traditional dance classes in Eassie, Kilry, Kirriemuir and Ruthven over a 20 week period. The submitted programme budget was costed at £14,300. The organisation has also successfully applied to Awards for All for £5,000 toward this project's costs.

It was considered that this was a strong application which fitted in well with the strategic objectives of Cultural Services and the Council but was an extremely ambitious programme for this organisation, particularly as no guidance, assistance or consultation had been sought from the Scottish Traditions of Dance Trust.

These concerns were raised with the Eassie & Nevay Community Association who have subsequently advised that they have made contact with the STDT who are now an integral

part of the project delivery and that the scale of activity has been reduced to 56 classes. The programme costs being reduced to just under £10,000.

It is therefore recommended that an offer of a grant of £1,000 be made from Angus Council

- 2.4** The Forfar Dramatic Society have applied for a grant of £500 to conduct a feasibility study to attempt to “Establish models for sustainable youth theatre provision in Forfar”. The study would be informed through consultation with young people, local agencies and Angus Council.

The development of an Arts Plan and Cultural Strategy for Angus is a strategic priority objective for the Leisure Services Department and as part of that process full consultation with all appropriate agencies and stakeholders would occur. This would follow the model and guidance as contained in *Implementation of the National Cultural Strategy: Guidance for Scottish Local Authorities* published in March 2003. The Angus Cultural Strategy is due to go out to consultation in Spring 2004, and the Forfar Dramatic Society will be encouraged to take part in this process.

It is considered that the development of an Angus Cultural Strategy and Arts Plan and its consultative process should inform strategic development from a broader, multi-discipline and balanced Angus perspective and precede the narrower study as described.

It is recommended that the grant application be refused with a note to Forfar Dramatic Society that re-submission would be welcomed after the Angus Cultural Strategy has been agreed and published.

### **3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Provision for grant aid of £38,000 is contained in the Miscellaneous Services Section of the 2003/04 Revenue Budget for grants, and the award total of £2000 can be contained within the Arts and Heritage Section of this budget.

### **4. HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS**

There are no Human Rights Implications arising from this Report.

### **5. CONSULTATION**

The Chief Executive, the Director of Law and 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.