

ANGUS COUNCIL

RESOURCES AND CENTRAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

20 OCTOBER 2005

SUBJECT: ANGUS COUNCIL COMMUNITY GRANT SCHEME

REPORT BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Abstract: This report makes recommendations to the Resources & Central Services Committee on Angus Council Community Grant Scheme applications over £500 and informs the Committee of applications of £500 or less.

1 RECOMMENDATION

- 1.1 It is recommended that the Committee approve the grant award recommendations made in this report in respect of applications for funding of over £500 and note the applications for £500 or less since 1 September 2005.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 On 7 May 1996 the Policy & Resources Committee considered and approved Report No 317/96, which set out arrangements for how the Council might manage its Grant Aid arrangements.

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Grant Aid scheme operated successfully since 1996 however since establishment of the External Funding Team of the Chief Executive's Department in November 2002 there has been greater emphasis on co-ordinating grant applications from community and voluntary organisations, as well as identifying alternative sources of external funding.
- 3.2 In 2004 the External Funding Team began to play a more central role in co-ordinating and monitoring Grant Aid applications and it was agreed by the Corporate Grant Aid Working Group to undertake a full review of criteria, application form and guidance notes.
- 3.3 Following wide consultation with departments the Grant Aid scheme was reviewed to be more accessible and user friendly. The Strategic Policy Committee considered and approved Report No 799/05 on 21 June 2005, endorsing changes which included:
- The scheme to be known as the Angus Council Community Grant Scheme.
 - A revised application form, one for local voluntary and community groups and one for national organisations with an updated design and incorporating guidance.
 - Revised guidance notes updated and including useful contacts and additional information.

- A revised process with the External Funding Team having responsibility for logging applications, processing grants in accordance with departmental decisions and follow-up monitoring.
- All grants for £500 or less to be dealt with either by the appropriate department at an officer level or by the Angus Council Community Grant Scheme Working Group, chaired by the Head of the Policy & Performance Unit of the Chief Executive's Department.
- Grant applications for over £500 to be considered by the Resources & Central Services Committee.
- All grants to be reported to the Resources & Central Services Committee.

4 APPLICATIONS OVER £500

ORGANISATION	AMOUNT REQUESTED	DEPT BUDGET	SUMMARY	RECOMMENDATION
Angus Access Panel	£5,000	Social Work & Health	Grant requested towards costs of providing enquiry and information service for disabled people.	The group works closely with Angus Council and provides a vital service including assisting with the development and refurbishment of buildings to ensure access for disabled people. Grant recommended - £4,645.
Dundee Samaritans	£3,900	Social Work & Health	Grant requested to livery three taxis in Angus to promote the service and attract new volunteers.	The organisation has been previously funded through the former Grant Aid Scheme. Alternative funding has now been identified through Choose Life. Grant recommended – nil.
Scottish Spina Bifida Association	£2,000	Social Work & Health	Grant requested towards costs of family support service.	The organisation provides an effective, high quality service. Grant recommended - £530.

ORGANISATION	AMOUNT REQUESTED	DEPT BUDGET	SUMMARY	RECOMMENDATION
Childline Scotland	£784	Social Work & Health	Grant request to assist with provision of services to children in need of protection.	The work of ChildLine Scotland is consistent with the Council's duty to ensure the welfare and protection of children in need. Grant awarded - £400
Grandparents Apart	£5,000	Social Work & Health		Grant recommended - nil
KWASTRA	£1,000	Housing	Grant requested towards running costs of community shop in Kirriemuir.	The group previously received a start-up grant and rent is paid from the Housing Revenue budget. It has been agreed to extend this to include running costs. Grant recommended - £745.08.
Montrose Heritage Trust	£5000	Leisure Services (Cultural services)	Grant requested towards the costs of erecting the Bamse statue in Montrose	The applicant has been asked to provide further information including a more detailed budget identifying the shortfall in funding, confirmation of planning permission and evidence of community consultation re the design and siting of the statue. Grant recommended - deferred.
Brechin Mechanics Institute	£5000	Leisure Services (Cultural Services)	Grant requested towards installing lift and altering kitchen and toilets.	The applicant has been asked to provide further information on other funding secured or applied for, a more detailed budget identifying the shortfall and confirmation of planning permission etc. Grant recommended – deferred.

ORGANISATION	AMOUNT REQUESTED	DEPT BUDGET	SUMMARY	RECOMMENDATION
Angus Toy Appeal	£1,500	Corporate	Grant requested towards cost of purchasing for children of families in need at Christmas.	The group has previously been supported and provide valuable work. Grant recommended - £1,000.
Volunteer Centre Angus	£5,000	Education	Grant requested towards core costs of Service.	The VCA plays a valuable role as the centre of excellence in volunteering locally. Grant recommended £1,000

5 APPLICATIONS OF £500 OR LESS

ORGANISATION	AMOUNT REQUESTED	DEPT BUDGET	SUMMARY	RECOMMENDATION
One Parent Families Scotland	£206	Social Work & Health	Grant requested towards core costs of service i.e. dealing with enquiries and providing information.	The organisation provides an important support services for one parent families. Grant awarded - £206
Deafblind Scotland	£252	Social Work and Health	Grant requested towards core costs of service i.e. providing advice and information, training and trips.	The organisation is currently funded via a Service Level Agreement. Grant awarded nil.

ORGANISATION	AMOUNT REQUESTED	DEPT BUDGET	SUMMARY	RECOMMENDATION
Scottish Women's Aid	£350	Social Work & Health	Grant requested towards core costs of providing information, help and support to women, children and young people who have experienced domestic abuse.	Scottish Women's Aid have an affiliated group, Angus Women's Aid to whom they provide information, support, publications and training. They work on their behalf at national level via campaigning and events. They are partially funded by the Scottish executive (60%) and fundraise to meet the balance of costs including applying to local authorities for support. Grant awarded - £300
Saltire Society	£150	Corporate	Grant towards corporate membership subscription to The Saltire Society	Grant recommended for approval. In addition it was recommended that a link be made to the Saltire Society website from the Portal. Grant awarded - £150
Graham Crescent Residents Association	£150	Corporate	Grant towards hiring a band for fundraising evening.	This group is in a sufficiently healthy financial position to support themselves. Grant awarded - nil.
Pathhead Vaulting Group	£430	Leisure Services	Grant requested towards costs of purchasing equipment.	This group is a relatively young Club becoming more established. They are a member of Angus Sports Council. Purchase of additional equipment will assist in developing the club further and promoting their activities. Grant awarded – up to £430.

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Physically Disabled United Group	£500	Social Work & Health	Grant requested towards equipment and transport costs.	This group provides a valuable informal support system for people with physical disabilities. Grant awarded - £460
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6 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Provision for the Angus Council Community Grant Scheme is contained within the Miscellaneous Services section of the Council's Revenue Budget, within Social Work & Health, Housing, Education or Leisure Services budgets where appropriate and the amounts recommended for approval in this report can be contained within these budgets.

7 HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no Human Rights implications arising from this report.

8 CONSULTATION

- 8.1 The Acting Director of Finance and Directors of Law & Administration, Housing, Social Work & Health and Leisure Services have been consulted during the preparation of this report.

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.

DV/AJS/MM

17 October 2005

David Sawers
Chief Executive