

## **EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**

**CABINET – 19 SEPTEMBER 2007**

### **SCOTTISH REFUGEE COUNCIL - APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

#### **Report by Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support**

#### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise Cabinet of:-
- a. a request for financial assistance which has been received from the Scottish Refugee Council; and
  - b. to recommend accordingly.

#### **2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The Scottish Refugee Council has submitted an application for financial assistance for the sum of £2,000.
- 2.2 The Scottish Refugee Council provides help and advice to those who have fled persecution in their homeland and now seek refuge in Scotland. It works independently and in partnership with others to support refugees from their arrival to settlement and integration into Scottish society. It campaigns to ensure that the Government meets international, legal and humanitarian obligations and raises awareness of refugee issues.
- 2.3 In May 2005 the then Policy and Resources Committee considered and rejected a request for funding from the Scottish Refugee Council as it was considered that the Council's support for this area of work was best channelled through the Ethnic Minority Law Centre.
- 2.4 At its meeting on 27 March 2007 the Policy and Resources Committee agreed to award an increased grant of £6,555 to the Ethnic Minority Law Centre. This grant was to support the Centre in the provision of advice to members of the Black and Minority Ethnic community within East Ayrshire.

#### **3. PROPOSAL**

- 3.1 Having regard to the Council's previous position that support of the area of work provided by the Scottish Refugee Council was best channelled through the Ethnic Minority Law Centre, and as the Council has already awarded an increased grant to the Ethnic Minority Law Centre, it is proposed that the application for funding submitted by the Scottish Refugee Council be rejected.

#### **4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 There are no policy implications arising from the proposals contained in this report.

#### **5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 There are no legal implications arising from the proposals contained in this report.

#### **6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 There are no financial implications arising from the proposals contained in this report.

#### **7. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 7.1 Cabinet is recommended to:-
- a. reject the application for grant funding from the Scottish Refugee Council; and
  - b. ask the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support to communicate this decision to the Scottish Refugee Council.

**Elizabeth Morton**  
**Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support**  
**24 August 2007**

#### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Nil

Anyone wishing further information should contact Martin Rose, Head of Personnel (telephone 01563 576092)