

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

CABINET – 22 APRIL 2009

WEST OF SCOTLAND REGIONAL EQUALITY 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 West of Scotland Regional Equality Council; and
 - b. to recommend accordingly.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The West of Scotland Regional Equality Council has submitted an application for financial assistance for the sum of £6,518.
- 2.2 The West of Scotland Regional Equality Council, formerly known as the West of Scotland Racial Equality Council works to eliminate discrimination, promote good community relations and to create an equality of opportunity for all residents in the West of Scotland.
- 2.3 In previous years the then Policy and Resources Committee considered and rejected requests for funding from the West of Scotland Race Equality Council, as it then was, as it was considered that the Council's support for this area of work was best channelled through either the Ayrshire Equality Partnership or the Ethnic Minority Law Centre (EMLC). No grant application was received from the West of Scotland Race Equality Council in 2008.
- 2.4 Whilst the EMLC has not yet submitted an application for financial assistance for the current financial year, it is not considered that there is likely to be anything within that application which would change the approach which has been used by the Council previously as outlined in para 2.3 above.

3. PROPOSAL

- 3.1 Having regard to the Council's previous position that support for the area of work provided by the West of Scotland Regional Equality Council was best channelled through the Ethnic Minority Law Centre, it is proposed that the application for funding submitted by the West of Scotland Regional Council be rejected.

4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

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

5. RISK MANAGEMENT

5.1 There are no risk management issues.

6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 The Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000 places a requirement on the Council, through its Race Equality Scheme, to put in place the best possible arrangements for the promotion of race equality. At present the Council achieves this through participation in the Ayrshire Equality Partnership, the work of the Race Network and its support to local black & minority ethnic groups through Community Learning & Development.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

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

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 Cabinet is recommended to:-

- a. reject the application for grant funding from the West of Scotland Regional Equality Council; and
- b. ask the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support to communicate this decision to the West of Scotland Regional Equality Council.

Elizabeth Morton
Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support
8 April 2009

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Nil

Anyone wishing further information should contact Martin Rose, Head of Personnel
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