

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

CABINET - 29 JUNE 2011

APPLICATION FOR GRANT ASSISTANCE - SCOTTISH CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

Joint Report by the Executive Directors of Finance and Corporate Support and Educational and Social Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise Cabinet of a grant application received from Scottish Cancer Support and to make recommendations accordingly.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The main aims of the Scottish Cancer Support are to provide:-

- patient transport for cancer sufferers to and from hospital;
- practical and financial help for cancer sufferers as a result of deprivation through cancer;
- respite holidays for cancer sufferers and their families to holiday caravans; and
- provide practical and financial aid for the bereaved as a result of loss caused by cancer.

- 2.2 No grant assistance has been awarded to the Scottish Cancer Support Group in the last five years.

3. DETAILS OF GRANT REQUESTED

- 3.1 The grant is to part fund the purchase of a third static caravan to be based at Craig Tara Caravan Park in Ayr to provide respite holidays for cancer sufferers and their families.

- 3.2 The total cost of the caravan is £41,500. The Scottish Cancer Support is applying for funding of £10,000 from East Ayrshire Council. The charity has been awarded £10,000 from South Ayrshire Council and has also applied to Awards for All for £10,000. The shortfall in the cost of £11,500 will be made up from the Scottish Cancer Support's own funds.

4. ASSESSMENT OF THE APPLICATION

- 4.1 The charity currently has two static caravans but these are oversubscribed which means that there is a waiting list for the use of caravans. The purchase of an additional caravan, to be based at Craig Tara Caravan Park in Ayr, will reduce the waiting list and allow an additional number of cancer sufferers and their families from East Ayrshire to have a respite holiday. The majority of the

cancer patients that are assisted by the Group are from East Ayrshire with a concentration in Kilmarnock in particular.

4.2 The charity works with the Beatson Oncology Centre in Glasgow and local GP surgeries to identify those patients in the local community who would benefit from a respite holiday. Cancer sufferers and their families would benefit from the grant by being able to go on holiday when financially this would have been prohibitive. The charity also provides volunteering opportunities in the local community through its charity shops. It has several charity shops in the area together with a furniture warehouse in Cumnock which produces income from its activities. Its newest shop was opened in October 2010 in Newmilns.

4.3 The application has been assessed and it is recommended by the Assessing Department that a grant of £10,000 is awarded.

5. FINANCIAL/LEGAL/POLICY IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There is sufficient funding within the Central Services budget if Members were so minded to support the application. This funding is available as a one-off amount earmarked as part of the year end closure process for 2010/11.

5.2 The application does not fit the criteria to qualify for funding under the Local Committee Grants Scheme as it is an organisation supporting people throughout the whole of the East Ayrshire area.

6. HUMAN RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS - Nil.

7. COMMUNITY PLANNING IMPLICATIONS

7.1 The application meets the strategic priority of the Improving Health and Wellbeing Community Plan 2011-15 by improving the physical and mental health, wellbeing and care of cancer sufferers and their families in East Ayrshire. The application also addresses a number of local outcomes in the Plan by empowering individuals and their families to lead the healthiest life possible through the provision of respite holidays.

8. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

8.1 The grant has been assessed in accordance with the Council's procedures.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 It is recommended that Cabinet:-

- (i) approve a grant of £10,000 to the Scottish Cancer Support Group; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

Alex McPhee
Executive Director of Finance &
Corporate Support

Graham Short
Executive Director of Educational &
Social Services

30 May 2011
JMcG/SR

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. Grant application: Grant Ref: CG 4895.

Any person wishing to inspect the background papers relative to this report should contact Christine Baillie, Senior Administrative Officer, on Telephone Number (01563) 576129. Any person wishing further information on this report should contact Bill Walkinshaw, Head of Democratic Services on Telephone Number (01563) 576135.

Implementation Officer: Julie McGarry, Administration Manager.