

## **EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**

**COUNCIL – 4 NOVEMBER 2010**

### **BARR EAST AYRSHIRE LANDFILL COMMUNITIES FUND**

#### **Report by Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services**

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

- 1.1 To advise Council of the Environmental Improvement Grants Scheme for East Ayrshire which is administered by Score Environment and to seek the appointment of a representative from East Ayrshire Council to the Barr East Ayrshire Landfill Communities Fund Committee which considers applications for funding.

#### **2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 A tax on the landfilling of waste was introduced by the national Government in April 1996 as a method of encouraging a reduction in the amount of waste sent to landfill and encouraging other, more sustainable forms of waste treatment and disposal.
- 2.2 The Landfill Communities Fund is the tax credit scheme which enables operators of landfill sites to contribute funds to enrolled Environmental Bodies to carry out projects which meet the environmental objectives contained within the Landfill Tax Regulations and where projects are within a ten mile radius of a landfill site.
- 2.3 Landfill operators may contribute up to 6.66% of their landfill tax liability to Environmental Bodies and then reclaim 90% of this contribution as a tax credit. The landfill operator may bear the remaining 10% themselves, or else an independent third party, known as a Contributing Third Party, may make up this 10% difference to the landfill operator.
- 2.4 A Contributing Third Party may be a public sector organisation, a private company, charity, voluntary body or individual. The contribution required for any individual project would be 10% of the total amount of landfill tax funds used for the project in addition to administration fees. The Council are under no obligation to contribute this 10%.
- 2.5 In East Ayrshire, Barr Environment operates a landfill site at Skares near Cumnock. The company have chosen to contribute to the Landfill Communities Fund with the purpose of providing funding for projects with environmental benefits which aim to improve the lives of people and communities within a ten mile radius of a landfill site.

### **3. DISCUSSION**

- 3.1 The purpose of the Barr East Ayrshire Landfill Communities Fund Committee has been to consider applications for funding from a range of organisations and to receive and consider compliance reports on the allocation of funds from the Environmental Body known as Score Environment.
- 3.2 During its period of operation, the Barr East Ayrshire Landfill Communities Fund has allocated in excess of £1.2M to projects within East Ayrshire. These projects have ranged from the provision of play park facilities to the restoration of historic buildings of architectural interest. A full list of projects funded in East Ayrshire by the Landfill Communities Fund is provided at Appendix 1 to this report.
- 3.3 The Committee has comprised of a representative from each of East Ayrshire Council, Barr Environment and Score Environment since its creation over ten years ago who meet on an approximately bi-annual basis. During this period, the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services has represented the Council on the Committee.
- 3.4 The Committee has recognised the appropriateness of extending the membership of the Group to include an elected member from the Council in order that the level of scrutiny undertaken in award decisions may be further enhanced.

### **4. COMMUNITY PLANNING IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 The environmental benefits delivered by the projects funded by the Barr East Ayrshire Landfill Communities Fund are consistent with the aims of the Delivering Community Regeneration Action Plan.

### **5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

### **6. POLICY/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 There are no policy/legal implications arising from this report.

### **7. RISK IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 There are no risk implications arising from this report.

### **8. CONCLUSIONS**

- 8.1 The Barr East Ayrshire Landfill Communities Fund Committee considers applications for funding from a variety of organisations for wide-ranging projects with local environmental benefits.

- 8.2 The Committee comprises representatives from East Ayrshire Council, Barr Environment and Score Environment who meet on an approximately bi-annual basis to determine the suitability of applications for funding under the terms of the Landfill Tax Regulations.
- 8.3 It has been requested by the Committee that East Ayrshire Council consider widening the membership of the Committee by the inclusion of an elected member.
- 8.4 There are strong links between the Delivering Community Regeneration Action Plan of the Council's Community Plan and the objectives of the Committee. It is appropriate that a portfolio holder with responsibility for sustainable development as well as community regeneration be nominated to represent East Ayrshire Council on the Committee.

## **9. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 9.1 It is recommended that Council:-
- (i) nominate an elected member to represent East Ayrshire Council on the Barr East Ayrshire Landfill Communities Fund Committee; and
  - (ii) otherwise notes the contents of the report.

Elizabeth Morton

**Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services**

EM/MT

25 October 2010

## **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

**Nil**

Implementation officer – [morven.templeton@east-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:morven.templeton@east-ayrshire.gov.uk)

## EAST AYRSHIRE LCF PROJECTS

PROJECT TITLE	PROJECT VALUE
<b>2010/11</b>	
Moscow Community Hall	20000
Skares Playpark	13106.65
River Ayr Hogweed	2933
	<b>36039.65</b>
<b>2009/10</b>	
Barr Castle Community Garden	8750
Hollybush Park	5000
Hollybush House	15000
Templand Wood	5000
Mauchline Scout Group	6500
Sorn Bowling Club	20000
Airds Moss	10000
Galston Parish Church	1250
Schaw Kirk	5000
Plaques	2012.50
	<b>78512.50</b>
<b>2008/9</b>	
Dumfries House	310000
Lugar Water Trail	138000
Mauchline Kirkyard Paths	25000
Black Rocks Salmon Leap	25000
	<b>498000</b>
<b>2007/8</b>	
Stewarton Woodlands	16000
Mauchline Scout Hall	10000
Loudoun Kirk	4000
Sorn Village Enhancement	5000
Ayrshire Rivers Trust	9600
Bellfield Bowling Club	20000
	<b>64600</b>
<b>2006/7</b>	
Bonnyton Thistle	25000
Skares Playpark	21008.95
Ochiltree Parish Church	9900
Newmilns Snow and Sports Complex	20000

Mauchline Kirkyard	11300
	<b>87208.95</b>

**2005/6**

Stair Parish Church	5000
Dunlop & Lugton Park	20000
Ochiltree Parish Church	6500
KC Club	3026
Galston Parish Church	4700
Mauchline Kirkyard	5000
Bellsbank Adventure Playground	15000
Dunlop Village Hall	20000
Barony A Frame	20000
Sorn in Bloom	0
MUGAS	215000
	<b>314226</b>

**2004/5**

Newmilns Snow and Sports Complex	15000
Barr Castle Heritage Museum	5000
	<b>20000</b>

**2003/4**

none

**2002/3**

Irvine VPR	5000
Auchinleck Clock Tower	2845.01
Mauchline Burns Club	20000
Ochiltree Parish Church	12110
Bellsbank Adventure Playground	17000
Bogton Mine	10000
Dalmellington Band	10000
Ness Glen Woodland path	9711
Beautiful Scotland in Bloom	5000
Loudoun Kirk	11858
	<b>103524.01</b>

**2001/2**

St. Sophia's Cumnock and District Leisure Group	10000
	50000
	<b>60000</b>

**TOTAL FUNDING  
AWARDED**

**1,262,111.11**