

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

CUMNOCK AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE - 1 FEBRUARY 2007

ADMINISTRATION OF COMMUNITY GRANTS 2007/2008

Report by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1** To request approval to arrangements for the administration and processing of Community Grant applications for the 2007/2008 year, in light of the Local Government Elections in May 2007.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1** The Local Committee at its meeting on 6 November 2003 agreed, amongst other things, generic timescales to be applied in respect of the processing of applications for Community Grant. Appendix I sets out the generic dates with the associated actions.

3. CONSIDERATION

- 3.1** As can be seen from Appendix I, the process relating to Community Grants has already commenced and, in terms of the approved arrangements, is due to continue through its various stages until determination of the applications in late May 2007.
- 3.2** Members will also be aware that the next Local Government Election will take place on 3 May 2007, which is within the time period during which the Community Grants process is ongoing. Therefore, it is proposed that the process and the timescales attached to it should be altered for the coming year.

4. PROPOSAL

- 4.1** In the circumstances which exist, it is suggested that the Community Grant administration process for the 2007/2008 year be amended on the basis that the process will run as previously approved until finalisation of the Service Departments' assessment reports (Week 2, April), but that the remaining stages, which will have direct input and involvement by Elected Members, be held in abeyance, and detailed arrangements in this regard be made following the Local Government Elections.

5. FINANCIAL/LEGAL/POLICY/COMMUNITY PLANNING IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no financial/legal/policy implications arising directly from this report.
- 5.2 The disbursement of Community Grants to locally based organisations accords with the main themes of the East Ayrshire Community Plan.

6. RECOMMENDATION

- 6.1 It is recommended that the Local Committee agree the proposed amendments to the arrangements for processing Community Grants for 2007/2008, as suggested in Paragraph 4.1, above.

Elizabeth Morton
Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support

4 January 2007
SN/SR

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

NIL

Any person wishing further information on this report should contact Bill Walkinshaw, Administration Manager on Tel No (01563) 576135.

Implementation Officer: Stuart Nelson, Administrative Officer.

APPENDIX I

<u>GENERIC DATE</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
Week 4/5, November	Issue of publicity inviting submission of grant applications, i.e. letter to organisations, poster campaign
Week 4/5, January	Issue of reminder letters to local organisations, if necessary
Friday closest to 14 February	Closing date for submission of applications (For 2007/2008 this will be Friday 16 February 2007)
Week 5, March	Initial assessment reports by Service Departments on all grant applications to be complete
Week 2, April	Assessment reports by Service Departments to be finalised
Week 3, April	Local Committee Pre-Agenda meeting
Week 4, April	Issue Agenda for Special Local Committee meeting
Week 5, April	Special Local Committee Meeting
Mid May	Issue of grant payments/letters of refusal to organisations