

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE – 3 MAY 2005

CORE FUNDING PAYMENTS TO EXTERNAL PARTNERSHIPS, SUBSCRIPTIONS TO EXTERNAL BODIES AND FUNDING FOR SPECIAL PROJECTS IN THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2005/2006

Report by the Executive Director of Development and Property Services

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek the approval of the Committee to make payments to external bodies, partnerships and special projects in the financial year 2005/2006.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The amount allocated by the Council in the financial year 2005/2006 budget for core funding payments to external partnerships, subscriptions to external bodies and funding for special projects is £535,687. This represents an increase in budget allocation of £51,877 from the previous financial year.
- 2.2 Expenditure under this budget heading relates to operational activities of all three divisions of the Department of Development & Property Services and is summarised in Table 1.

3. PROPOSED EXPENDITURE IN FINANCIAL YEAR 2005/06

- 3.1 Tables 2 to 5 categorise the areas of expenditure, identify the individual projects and show both the approved expenditure and projected out-turn in 2004/05 and also the anticipated expenditure in 2005/06. Where possible, the projected figures for 2005/06 have been agreed with the relevant organisation.

(1) **Core Funding to External Partnerships (Table 2)**

These partnerships are entered into by the Council with other local or national partners to deliver outcomes in respect of strategic policy objectives. These funding relationships fall within the scope of "Following the Public Pound" and as such are subject to Service Level Agreements and annual monitoring reports to Committee.

(2) **Subscriptions to External Bodies (Table 3)**

This category includes subscription payments to organisations which deliver a specific specialist service on a consortium basis (normally available to all local authorities in the former Strathclyde area). The Council's relationship with these organisations is in the context of the "spirit" of "Following the Public Pound" or the Council's own Accounting Policy Bulletin (APB) 27.

In addition, this category includes subscriptions to organisations both local and national and whose sphere of activity aligns with the activities of the Council, where it is considered relevant and appropriate that the Council maintains that membership. Such memberships are included in the list of Affiliations to Outside Organisations, as approved annually by the Policy and Resources Committee.

(3) **Funding for Special Projects (Table 4)**

These projects are developed in partnership with other organisations and have specific objectives and proposed outcomes. Participation in the projects has been approved by Committee and periodic monitoring reports are presented to Committee.

(4) **Match Funding for ESF Funded Projects (Table 5)**

Like the projects listed at (3) above, these projects are developed in partnership with other organisations and have specific objectives and proposed outcomes. However, these projects are part funded by grant assistance through the European Social Fund (ESF) in respect of which the Council is the lead partner and must demonstrate the availability of match funding. Participation in the projects has been approved by Committee and periodic monitoring reports are presented to Committee.

4. PROPOSED ALTERATIONS TO FUNDING IN FINANCIAL YEAR 2005/06

4.1 The attention of the Committee is drawn to the following projects which were funded in 2004/05 but for which there are no funding proposals in 2005/06.

4.1.1 Ayrshire Film Focus

This was a project to which the Council committed funding support of £1,500 per annum for a 3 year period from 2002/03 to 2004/05. The outputs from the project did not match the projections set at the establishment of the project and it has been agreed by the partners that it is not justifiable to continue the project in its original format at the level of cost involved.

4.1.2 2004 Open Golf

This was expenditure approved by Committee to support the initiative of the Ayrshire Economic Forum to have a corporate hospitality presence at each of the four days of the Open Golf Championship at Royal Troon, the guest list for which was focussed on key individuals and companies who were considered to have significant potential to positively influence the growth and development of the Ayrshire economy.

4.1.3 Newmilns Townscape Heritage Trust

This was expenditure approved by Committee to assist in the continuation of the award winning work carried out through the Newmilns Townscape Heritage Initiative. It enabled the undertaking of the Newmilns Building Restoration Feasibility Study which has recently been completed. The results of the feasibility study were reported to the meeting of the Development Services Committee, held on 9 March 2005, where a way forward was agreed for the continued regeneration of Newmilns.

- 4.2** The attention of the Committee is drawn to the following projects for which there are proposals to reduce the level of funding allocated in 2005/06, compared to that allocated and / or paid in 2004/05.

4.2.1 Dalmellington & District Conservation Trust

Following discussions with the Board on the future of the organisation, it was collectively agreed that only a quarter of the annual funding be released until a detailed assessment is carried out into the prospects for the site, which will be the subject of a separate report to a future meeting of the Committee.

- 4.3** The attention of the Committee is drawn to the following project which has been added to the list, under the category of "Funding for Special Projects".

4.3.1 Ayrshire Timber Transport Group : Project Officer for South of Scotland

At the last meeting, the Ayrshire Timber Transport Group decided it would be beneficial if a Project Officer could be appointed to develop and manage timber transport projects and assist with submitting bids to the Strategic Timber Transport Fund. It was envisaged that the Project Officer would work with the Ayrshire, Dumfries & Galloway and the Scottish Borders Timber Transport Groups.

Scottish Enterprise, the Forestry Commission and Dumfries & Galloway Council will make a contribution to the cost if the three Ayrshire authorities also agree to contribute. East Ayrshire Council's share is approximately £1,500.

5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1** The organisations and projects to which the Council provides funding support are all engaged in activities which contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the East Ayrshire Community Plan, the Strategy of the Ayrshire Economic Forum, the Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan and the East Ayrshire Local Plan.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1** The individual payments identified in this report will be funded from the budget for 2005/06 approved by the Committee.

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1** There are no legal implications arising directly from this report. Appropriate agreements in terms of "Following the Public Pound" and "APB 27" will be completed with each of the organisations and projects supported and performance will be monitored at an appropriate level and reported to Committee, as required.

8. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1** There are no direct personnel implications arising from this report.

9. RECOMMENDATION

- 9.1** That the Committee approve the payments to external partnerships and special projects in accordance with the proposals set out at Section 3 and the tables attached to this report.

JAMES LAVERY

Executive Director of Development and Property Services

24.03.2005/jrs

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Nil

For further information, please contact JOHN SPOONER, Business Development Manager, on Extension 6143.

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Table 1

SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURE

AREA OF EXPENDITURE	APPROVED FOR 2004/2005	OUT-TURN FOR 2004/2005	PROPOSED FOR 2005/2006
Core Funding to External Partnerships	419,811	400,970	399,892
Subscriptions to External Bodies	24,302	26,376	28,542
Funding for Special Projects	65,000	58,314	46,500
Match Funding for ESF Funded Projects	48,962	33,629	55,749
Sundry journal entry credit adjustments	0	(3,067)	0
TOTALS	558,075	516,222	530,683

Table 2

CORE FUNDING PAYMENTS TO EXTERNAL PARTNERSHIPS

D&PS DIVISION	EXTERNAL PARTNERSHIP	APPROVED FOR 2004/2005	OUT-TURN FOR 2004/2005	PROPOSED FOR 2005/2006
Corporate Support	Pre-vocational Training/East Ayrshire Strategy for Youth	20,000	20,000	20,000
ED&P	Ayrshire Film Focus	1,500	1,500	0
ED&P	Conduit Project	16,920	16,920	30,000
ED&P	Dalmellington & District Conservation Trust	85,191	85,190	21,298
ED&P	East Ayrshire Employment Initiative	155,000	155,000	155,000
ED&P	East Ayrshire Woodlands	Payments were not made from this budget		50,000
ED&P	Promoting Kilmarnock Town Centre Limited	18,950	18,950	18,950
ED&P	VisitScotland	69,150	69,150	69,150
PD&BS	Ayrshire Structure Plan Joint Committee	41,880	22,316	23,000
PD&BS	Regional Archaeological Service	11,220	11,944	12,494
TOTALS		419,811	400,970	399,892

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Table 3

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO EXTERNAL BODIES

D&PS DIVISION	EXTERNAL BODY	APPROVED FOR 2004/2005	PROJECTED OUT-TURN FOR 2004/2005	PROPOSED FOR 2005/2006	
ED&P	Ayrshire Association of Business Women	100	100	140	
ED&P	Ayrshire Chamber of Commerce & Industry	613	613	635	
ED&P	Coalfields Communities Campaign	2,846	3,005	3,100	
ED&P	Glasgow Prestwick International Airport : Consultative Committee	500	500	500	
ED&P	Leading Action for Textiles, Clothing and Footwear	750	750	750	
ED&P	SCDI (Scottish Council Development & Industry)	2,021 (inc SLAED)	2,134 (inc SLAED)	1,736	
ED&P	SLAED (Scottish Local Authorities Economic Development)	Subscription included within payment to SCDI			580
ED&P	SLIMS : Strathclyde Labour Market	1,385	2,839	2,839	
ED&P	West of Scotland European Consortium	5,821	5,821	5,821	
PD&BS	Heritage Building Preservation Trust	1,700	1,700	1,700	
PD&BS	Planning Aid	1,061	1,061	1,061	
PD&BS	Scottish Civic Trust	545	545	545	
PD&BS	Scottish Housing and Town Planning	150	150	150	
PD&BS	Scottish Rights of Way and Access Society	200	200	200	
R&T	Local Authority Road Safety Officers	0	150	100	
R&T	RoSPA	310	253	253	
R&T	SUSTRANS	500	500	500	
R&T	West Coast Rail 250	300	300	300	
R&T	West of Scotland Road Safety Forum	2,000	2,000	2,000	
R&T	WESTRANS	3,500	3,755	5,632	
TOTALS		24,302	26,376	28,542	

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Table 4

FUNDING FOR SPECIAL PROJECTS

D&PS DIVISION	SPECIAL PROJECT	APPROVED FOR 2004/2005	OUT-TURN FOR 2004/2005	PROPOSED FOR 2005/2006
ED&P	Ayrshire & Arran Woodland Partnership Project	5,000	5,000	5,000
ED&P	Open Golf 2004	(up to) 15,000	2,751 (£9,140 funded from another budget)	0
ED&P	VisitScotland – Burns an' a' That Festival	40,000	40,000	40,000
PD&BS	Newmilns Townscape Heritage Trust	5,000	10,563	0
R&T	Ayrshire Timber Transport Group	Payments were not made from this budget		1,500
TOTALS		65,000	58,314	46,500

Table 5

MATCH FUNDING FOR ESF FUNDED PROJECTS

D&PS DIVISION	PROJECT	APPROVED FOR 2004/2005	OUT-TURN FOR 2004/2005	PROPOSED FOR 2005/2006
ED&P	B TTC Dalmellington	Payments were not made from this budget		9,167
ED&P	Dynamic Marketing	10,000	10,000	10,000
ED&P	Job Rotation 2003/04	15,333	0	15,333
ED&P	Job Rotation 2005/06	23,629	23,629	21,249
TOTALS		48,962	33,629	55,749