

## **EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**

### **EMERGENCY POWERS COMMITTEE – 10 MARCH 2006**

#### **ARRANGEMENTS TO MARK THE 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE COUNCIL**

##### **Report by Chief Executive**

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

- 1.1** To seek authority from the Emergency Powers Committee to recognise in the forthcoming months the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the creation of East Ayrshire Council and to take the opportunity to further enhance the work of the Council in its support of children and young people.

### **2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1** As Members are aware, East Ayrshire Council was established with effect from 1 April 1996, it being 10 years' old on 1 April 2006 and it is proposed that there be recognition of this significant event in the life of the Council.

### **3. PROPOSALS**

- 3.1** It is proposed that there be launched on Friday, 31 March 2006, a Challenge Fund for the young people of East Ayrshire particularly those who have not continued into further Education, Employment or Training (the NEET Group) recognising the importance which the Council attaches to the life and work of these young people and their key role as the future generation of East Ayrshire. This action by the Council responds in part to issues raised by residents of East Ayrshire in the recent survey carried out by the Council and its Community Planning Partners.
- 3.2** Further details of the nature of the event will be provided to Members in due course. In the meantime, however, it is, as stated above, proposed that the event be launched on 31 March at a ceremony which both celebrates and reflects on the life of the Council to date and looks forward to the future.
- 3.3** It is further proposed that at events held throughout the year, we will take the opportunity to recognise fittingly the contribution which our young people can and will continue to make to their communities and to support, in particular, that group of young people identified above. Further details of all of the above will be presented to Members over the forthcoming weeks and months.
- 3.4** Finally, in respect of our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary, it is suggested that the Council take in local newspaper(s) a wrap round advertorial highlighting our flagship projects and our most significant achievements over the last 10 years.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

**3.4** The cost of the advertorial and the launch will, together with any other events, proposed for the forthcoming months, be accommodated within General Fund Reserves. In addition, it is proposed that a Youth Initiative Challenge Fund be established in partnership with private sector donors with the Council's contribution to this being met from the uncommitted General Fund balance. The Fund would then invest these sums and utilise the investment income to provide resources to support relevant initiatives proposed by applicants. It is proposed that the Council's contribution be on the basis of £2 for every £1 pledged by the business sector up to a maximum of £1m from the Council. If maximum support can be achieved this would mean around £75,000 per annum would be available for disbursement for the foreseeable future leaving the initial contribution intact. Business sector interest will be assessed and officers will revert to Committee with further arrangements, as required.

## **4. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

**4.1** Arrangements for the investment and disbursement of investment income, in conjunction with the private sector, would require to be established.

## **5. RECOMMENDATIONS**

**5.1** The Committee is asked to:

- (a) consider the proposals to recognise the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary as detailed in the report; and, if agreed
- (b) authorise the Chief Executive to make initial arrangements both for the launch and for subsequent events and to report back further on the use and disbursement of the Challenge Fund.

Fiona Lees  
**Chief Executive**  
8 March 2006

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Nil

For further information on the content of the report, please contact Fiona Lees, Chief Executive, on 01563 576019

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