

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

NORTHERN AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE - 12 JANUARY 2006

COMMUNITY GRANT REF: CG 3175 - EAST AYRSHIRE ACCESS PANEL (NORTH DISTRICT)

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

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1** The purpose of the report is to provide the meeting with a note of the information which will be submitted to Irvine Valley, Kilmarnock North, Kilmarnock Central, Kilmarnock South and Northern Area Local Committees as part of the consideration of Community Grant Ref CG 3175 - East Ayrshire Access Panel (North District).

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1** A Community Grant application was received on 4 October 2005 from East Ayrshire Access Panel (North District) and was in respect of the Group's transport and administration costs as well as for fees (original assessment attached at Appendix I).
- 2.2** Due to the timing of receipt of the application, it was determined by the Administration Manager that the application could be submitted timeously to both Kilmarnock North and Irvine Valley Local Committees, these Committees coming at the end of the Local Committee meetings cycle in October/November 2005. As the organisation were in need of immediate financial assistance, this meant that some money would potentially be forthcoming to the Group at an early stage.
- 2.3** Thereafter, it was proposed that the remaining portion of the application be submitted to Kilmarnock Central and Northern Area Local Committees at their meetings in January 2006.

3. PRESENT SITUATION

- 3.1** Kilmarnock North Local Committee at its meeting on 8 November 2005 agreed an award of £600.00 to the Group (as recommended by the Assessing Department).
- 3.2** Irvine Valley Local Committee at its meeting on 9 November 2005 agreed an award of £600.00 to cover the Group's estimated running and transport costs for the next three months (£1,200 was the amount recommended by the Assessing Department), whilst requesting that the Assessing Department be asked to reconsider the methodology used to apportion the recommended grant award between the Local Committees.

3.3 The Assessing Department originally had used the membership of the Group to apportion the grant award with 40% of the Group's 12 members residing in Irvine Valley, 30% in Kilmarnock Central, 20% in Kilmarnock North, and 10% in Northern Area. This resulted in the recommended awards as detailed in Section 2.4 of the report.

3.4 Irvine Valley Local Committee in making this recommendation considered that the organisation were providing a service throughout the North area of East Ayrshire and the grant therefore should be divided equally between the five Local Committee areas in the North of the area, i.e. - £600.00 each from Kilmarnock North, Irvine Valley, Kilmarnock Central, Kilmarnock South and Northern Area Local Committees.

3.5 The Irvine Valley Local Committee further agreed that following this review of the methodology used to apportion the grant, to consider a potential further award to the Group, if required.

4. REVIEW OF METHODOLOGY USED TO APPORTION GRANT

4.1 Following the above request by the Irvine Valley Local Committee, the Assessing Department (Educational and Social Services) has reviewed the methodology used to apportion the grant, based on the proposal that the amount recommended should be split evenly across Northern Area, Kilmarnock Central, Irvine Valley, Kilmarnock North and Kilmarnock South Local Committees, and now offers the following comments:-

- although presently the membership is split Irvine Valley - 40%, Kilmarnock Central - 30%, Kilmarnock North - 20% and Northern Area - 10%, potentially members could be drawn from all Local Committee areas in the North of the Authority;
- anyone with disability, defined in the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 or those able to demonstrate a detailed knowledge and awareness of disability issues can become members of the Group. Therefore, there are no geographic restrictions (outwith the North of the area) placed on membership by the Group; and
- the Access Panel therefore provides a service which is open to all in the North of the Authority. Since the main purpose of the organisation is to work to safeguard the rights of all access and services for all people with disabilities, this work touches services and access issues throughout the five Local Committee areas in the North of the Authority.

4.2 Therefore, in conclusion, the Assessing Department confirms that it would seem logical that East Ayrshire Access Panel (North District) should be supported by all five Local Committees in the Access Panel's area.

- 4.2** On this basis, the amount of grant recommended for each Local Committee area would be as follows:-

Kilmarnock North - £600.00;
Irvine Valley - £600.00;
Kilmarnock Central - £600.00;
Kilmarnock South - £600.00; and
Northern Area - £600.00.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1** The amount of grant now recommended by the Assessing Departments varies from that originally recommended, however, the overall recommended grant remains £3,000. Any grant funding can still be met from the Local Committee's budgets.

6. LEGAL AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1** There are no legal or policy implications in consideration of this application.

7. COMMUNITY PLANNING IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1** Grant funding to local voluntary organisations assists in achieving the community planning principles.

8. CONCLUSION

- 8.1** The Assessing Department, following review of the methodology used to assess the grant have now concluded that the recommended grant award of £3,000 should be divided evenly between the five Local Committee areas in the North of the District.

- 8.2** This would result in recommended awards of £600.00 from each of the five Local Committees in question.

- 8.3** Kilmarnock North Local Committee, under the original assessment method used, have agreed the recommended grant of £600.00 with Irvine Valley Local Committee also awarding the Group £600.00 with the full detail of their decision outlined under Paragraph 3.2.

- 8.4** This means that the grant should now be submitted to the January round of meetings with recommended awards of £600.00 in respect of Kilmarnock South, Kilmarnock Central and Northern Area Local Committees.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1** It is recommended that:-

- (i) the Committee note the decision of the Irvine Valley Local Committee meeting of 9 November 2005 resulting in the new recommendation by

the Assessing Department that the grant be split evenly between the five Local Committees in the North of the area;

- (ii) to note that Kilmarnock North and Irvine Valley Local Committees have already agreed awards of £600.00 to the Group;
- (iii) that Kilmarnock Central, Kilmarnock South and Northern Area Local Committees each consider an award of £600.00 to the organisation, based on the principle that all five Local Committees in the North of the area support the application for the reasons provided by the Assessing Department, following review and as detailed under Section 4.1 of the report; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

Elizabeth Morton
Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support

20 December 2005
JM/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: Jennifer Morrison, Administrative Officer.

grant assessment form

1	Purpose of the group	
	The purpose of the group is to promote and safeguard the rights of all access and services for all people with disabilities throughout East Ayrshire.	
2	Purpose of the grant	
	Is for transport and running costs of the Access Panel which will allow them to continue to liaise with EAC on Disability Discrimination Awareness (DDA) issues.	
3a	How many people are on the group's Management Committee?	10
3b	What is the group's total membership?	10
3c	How many people in the group would benefit from the grant?	10
3d	How many people usually attend the group?	10
3e	How many people are expected to attend?	10
4	How will the grant develop the group/organisation or benefit the local community?	
	It will provide transport for the group to meet for the purpose of safeguarding access rights for all disabled people.	

5	Total cost of project		£3185.00	6	Recommendation	
	Amount of grant requested		£3000.00		Support	Yes
	Bank Balance(s)	Date 21.9.05	£ 341.29		Refuse	
	Where the group has more than one bank account all balances should be recorded				Defer	
	Cash in hand	Date	£ Nil		Amount Recommended	£3,000
	Name of other funding source				Reason for recommendation	
	S.D.E.F.				The EAC grant is specifically used for transport costs and communication and fees. The SDEF is for conferences etc., and excludes transport and running costs. The group have been advised to apply for insurance.	
	Amount and date of grant					
£ 10,000		Date April 2004				

7	If latest bank balance exceeds the cost of the project or is substantial, are these funds ring-fenced for the normal activities of the group or can they contribute to the cost of the project?
	The group are contributing £185 and the remaining funds are ringfenced for conference and transport.

8	Does the project represent value for money?	Yes ✓	No
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9	If there are any revenue implications how will they be met in future years?
	Grant applications.

10	Cross boundary grant (if applicable) and division per committee (the calculation should identify the corresponding number of individuals within the respective Local Committee areas who will directly benefit from the grant award)
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<input type="text"/>	Cumnock Area	<input type="text" value="£900 (3)"/>	Kilmarnock Central	<input type="text" value="£300 (1)"/>	Northern Area
<input type="text"/>	Doon Valley	<input type="text"/>	Kilmarnock South	<input type="text"/>	Other areas outwith East Ayrshire
<input type="text" value="£1,200 (4)"/>	Irvine Valley	Method of Division			
<input type="text" value="£600 (2)"/>	Kilmarnock North	<input type="text" value="Membership of Group"/>			

All questions on this form must be completed