

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE – 17TH SEPTEMBER 2003

RE-ALLOCATION OF QUALITY OF LIFE FUNDING

Report by Director of Community Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek approval for the re-allocation of Quality of Life funding, originally allocated to the provision of skateboard facilities, to other projects aimed at providing facilities and sporting opportunities for young people.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 At its meeting on 28th May 2003, the Community Services Committee considered a report on skateboard facilities and accepted a recommendation not to proceed with skateboard facility provision.
- 2.2 In considering a further recommendation to re-allocate the £100,000 available from the Quality of Life Funding, the Committee asked for further proposals to be drawn up with emphasis on opportunities for young people.

3. CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1 In developing proposals to re-allocate the available funding consideration has been given to current services for young people, particularly those that promote and encourage active sports participation and therefore support health, diversion and inclusion agendas and priorities.
- 3.2 The preferred options are as follows:-

- **Mobile Indoor Skateboard Provision** = **£20,000**
To support the purchase of a vehicle and suitable equipment to allow supervised indoor skateboard sessions to be promoted at suitable venues.
- **Provision of Teenage Sportswalls** = **£31,000**
To allow up to 2 sportswalls to be installed at venues not considered in the playpark refurbishment programme. Venues to be approved by the Director of Community Services, in consultation with the Chair.
- **Sports Development Projects** = **£49,000**
Partnership funding to support the appointment of 2 Football Development Officers (1 men's/boys, 1 women/girls) and 1 Rugby Development Officer) (see report elsewhere on this agenda)

Women's - £20,000 Rugby - £19,000 Men's - £10,000

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 £100,000 is available for re-allocation from the Scottish Executive's Quality of Life Funding.
- 4.2 Funding for the Sports Development posts beyond 2003/04 will be met from future years Quality of Life Funding which will be adjusted to take account of support for these posts if approved by Committee.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Nil

6. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The proposed re-allocation of funding to the schemes for young people supports the objectives of the Community Plan and the Council's Leisure Strategy/Emerging Cultural Strategy.

7. CONCLUSIONS

- 7.1 It is considered that the available funding will be most effectively re-allocated to support opportunities for young people through funding for Mobile Skateboarding Equipment; Sports Coaching/Development schemes run in partnership with national and local organisations and the provision of Teenage Sportswalls in areas not covered by the existing playpark improvement programme.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 It is recommended that the Committee:-
- i) approves to re-allocation of £20,000 to Indoor Skateboarding Transport and Equipment; £31,000 to Teenage Sportswall installation and £49,000 to support the 3-year appointment of 3 partnership sports development posts, 2 for Football and 1 for Rugby; and
 - ii) otherwise notes the content of this report.

William Stafford
Director of Community Services
WS/JAG/KH
18th August 2003

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. Report to the Community Services Committee dated 28th May 2003.

Anyone wishing to inspect the background papers should contact John Griffiths, Head of Leisure Services on 01563 576264.

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