

**EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**

**CHAIRS SUB COMMITTEE OF THE  
EDUCATION COMMITTEE – 22 APRIL 2003**

**AVONLEA YOUTH CENTRE  
VOLUNTARY SECTOR GRANTS 2003/2004**

**Report by Director of Educational and Social Services**

**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1** The purpose of this report is to seek Committee approval for an interim voluntary sector award for Avonlea youth Centre in respect of education voluntary sector grants for the year 2003/2004

**2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1** Voluntary Sector Grants are considered in the following categories:

- education voluntary sector grants to assist voluntary and community based groups to develop and deliver community based projects
- adult education childcare grants for childcare support to adult education initiatives

- 2.2** In both categories of grants, applicants are expected to meet a number of requirements. The criteria for awards are

- where applicants are community groups or voluntary organisations they should have a valid constitution
- applicants should have or be able to make arrangements for proper accounts to be maintained
- applicants should have a bank account held in the name of the group or organisation with a minimum of two signatories
- the work of the organisation should be essentially educational in nature
- that the grant aid expenditure should have clear benefits for East Ayrshire.

- 2.3** Other key criteria to be considered include:

- the grant aid expenditure should contribute to community development
- the work of the organisation should address one or more strategic issue

- the grant aided expenditure can contribute to economic regeneration through developing access to employment
- the grant aided aspect of the work of the organisation is complimentary to the work of Community Learning and Development.
- the grant aided expenditure assists in training and the development work of the organisation
- the grant aided expenditure is part of a broader collaborative strategy with other departments, agencies or services and community organisations

**2.4** Where funding is sought for out of school care projects the applicant should meet the basic eligibility criteria as cited above and should meet the requirements of the Regulation of Care (Scotland) Act 2001

### **3. REPORT**

**3.1** Avonlea Youth Centre provides facilities for young people in Catrine and Sorn which are complementary to the work of Community Learning and Development Services within the Council. Avonlea Management Committee received £4200 from Voluntary Sector Grants in the last financial year, towards the running costs of the facility.

**3.2** The average monthly running cost of the centre is £350. Information to date would suggest that due to the unexpectedly large utilities bill the Management Committee find their financial position to be critical and have requested early consideration of their award. The facilities in Avonlea have recently increased to include the provision of a learning centre with computing access for all ages.

**3.3** Officers are presently supporting Avonlea Management Committee to review their financial arrangements.

**3.4** In light of the value of the project it is recommended that interim financial support is given, which will allow the next Education Committee to consider in context, the value of future awards to Avonlea. An interim award of £1000 is recommended.

### **4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

**4.1** The budget held for Voluntary Sector Grants is sufficient to meet the interim award of £1,000.

### **5 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

**5.1** Nil

### **6. POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

**6.1** Support to the voluntary and community sector is compatible with the Council's Core Values, Partnership Agreements and the principles of participation and involvement through Social Inclusion.

## **7. RECOMMENDATIONS**

**7.1** Members of the Sub Committee are asked to:

- (i) approve the interim award of £1000 to Avonlea Youth Centre; and
- (ii) otherwise, note the contents of the report.

John Mulgrew  
Director of Educational and Social Services

16 April 2003  
KG/AJ/SB

### **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 1. Applications for funding
- 2. Officers Assessments of application

Members wishing further information should contact Kay Gilmour, Head of Community Support, Tel: (01563) 576104 or Anne Jackson, Principal Community Education Officer, Tel: (01563) 576126.

**IMPLEMENTATION OFFICER: KAY GILMOUR**