

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

EMERGENCY POWERS COMMITTEE -22 JULY 2002

PROPOSALS TO SPEND ADDITIONAL FUNDING FROM THE SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE

Report by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To advise Members of additional funding available to East Ayrshire Council from the Scottish Executive for 2002/03 and seek approval for proposals for spend against this additional allocation.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Minister of Finance and Public Services announced on the 26 June 2002 an additional funding allocation of £95M to Local Authorities in 2002/03. The main aims of the funding are "to improve services for children and young people and to improve the local environment and quality of life for our citizens".
- 2.2 The Council was advised in writing, again on the 26 June 2002, that the additional funding allocation to East Ayrshire Council would be £2.227M.
- 2.3 To take up this additional grant offer Councils require to "confirm acceptance of their allocations and their spending proposals by 24 July 2002".

3. POLICY THEMES

- 3.1 Scottish Executive guidance accompanying the Minister's letter gives further detail on the policy themes against which funding proposals should be prepared, these are:
- children and young people, with emphasis on 'making healthy choices the easy choices' and
 - our local environment, with emphasis on 'quality of life; visible impact; tackling community concerns'.
- 3.2 Authorities have been invited to develop proposals under both policy themes and since the announcement Officers have been preparing project proposals. Due to the tight timescales set by the Scottish Executive, proposals for spend against the additional allocation will be tabled at committee.

3.3 Once approval is obtained from the Scottish Executive where appropriate, detailed Project Implementation Plans will be submitted to relevant service committees.

4. FINANCIAL ALLOCATIONS

4.1 The Executive has advised that resources are available for the current year only and there is no commitment to additional allocations for future years.

4.2 The resources will be paid as part of the Council's Revenue Support Grant, subject to the Council accepting the offer of additional resources by the 24 July 2002 and its spending proposals fit within the themes set by Ministers for these funds.

5. POLICY/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Nil arising from this report.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 The additional resources are available for the current financial year only i.e. 2002/2003.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 Members are asked to:

- i) note the additional financial allocation to East Ayrshire Council for 2002/03;
- ii) agree to accept the offer of grant from the Scottish Executive, by the set deadline of 24 July 2002;
- iii) agree to submit the programme of projects to the Scottish Executive for consideration; and
- iv) otherwise note the content of the report.

Fiona Lees

Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources

18 July 2002

BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. Letter from the Scottish Executive on the Reallocation of Scottish Budget Resources dated 26 June 2002.

AGENDA