

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

EMERGENCY POWERS COMMITTEE - 21 NOVEMBER 2002

SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE: LOCAL CAPITAL GRANTS SCHEME: 2003/2004 BIDS

Report by Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To note the awards submitted to the Council for inclusion in the Scottish Executive's 2003/2004 Local Capital Grants Scheme, and to rank them prior to submission to the Scottish Executive.

2 THE LOCAL CAPITAL GRANTS SCHEME

- 2.1 The Local Capital Grants Scheme is an annual bidding round to the Scottish Executive. This year, the Environment and Rural Affairs Department advertised the fund by writing to community councils, and the Council.
- 2.2 This information was also disseminated via the Council's external funding network, and submissions were requested to be with the Council by 25 October 2002.
- 2.3 The Local Capital Grants Scheme encourages and assists local voluntary youth and community organisations to provide new, or improve existing premises for educational, social and recreational purposes.
- 2.4 The Scottish Executive will pay for 50% (to a maximum of £100,000) towards capital new-build or refurbishment costs. It is usually the case that the local authority should contribute 25% of the total expenditure. The regulations state, that 'in exceptional circumstances, a project may be grant aided where the applicant can demonstrate that it is able to raise 50% of the project costs without recourse to a local authority contribution'.
- 2.5 Eligible organisations are youth organisations or village hall/community centre organisations, who are in possession of a lease of the property and who provide facilities for educational, social and recreational activities.
- 2.6 The scheme requires local authorities to prioritise the applications. The Scottish Executive will prioritise the project which the local authority places at the top of its list. It should be noted however, that the fact a project appears at the top of an authority's priority list, does not automatically guarantee that it will be approved for grant-aid by the Scottish Executive.
- 2.7 The deadline for submission of these applications with their respective prioritisation is 22 November 2002.

3 PROPOSALS RECEIVED

- 3.1 The following proposals were received by community & voluntary organisations:

Applicant	Project Details	Total Cost	Funding to be applied for	Scot Exec Bid £k
		£k	£k	
Dalmellington Youth Centre	The refurbishment of a property for the provision of a new Youth Centre in Dalmellington	250	Community Fund - 80k East Ayrshire Council – 10k Minerals Trust – 50k Landfill Tax – 10k	100
New Cumnock Youth Centre	A new –build for the provision of a new Youth Centre in New Cumnock	200	Minerals Trust – 50k Community Fund – 40k East Ayrshire Council – 10k	100
The Total Cost represents the cost of the erection/refurbishment of building only.				

- 3.2 These applications were scored by officers from all departments, against a range of criteria:
- the communities of disadvantage targeted;
 - Council Plan & Social Inclusion priorities addressed;
 - the benefit to young people;
 - the management experience of the applicant;
 - demonstrable need;
 - feasibility of exit strategy; and,
 - the opportunity for match-funding to be levered.
- 3.3 A meeting of officers took place to assess the relative merits of the applications. It was noted that both projects had the potential to bring great benefit to their communities and scored equally against the majority of the criteria. The Dalmellington Youth Centre Initiative however, through its experience of service delivery and youth management, was able to demonstrate an advanced state of readiness to access and realise external funding opportunities.
- 3.4 This being the case, the following prioritisation (highest priority being ‘1’) is recommended for approval by the Council;
- 1) Dalmellington Youth Centre
 - 2) New Cumnock Youth Centre
- 3.5 A decision on these applications will be made by the Scottish Executive in Spring 2003.

4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 If the application for the Dalmellington Youth Centre is successful, both in terms of the Scottish Executive Local Capital Grants Scheme and the other funders which form part of the package, then Committee is asked to agree that £10,000 from the Council's Match-Fund budget for 2003/04 be committed to part fund this project.

5 POLICY/LLEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no policy/legal implications arising from the report.

6 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 The Committee is asked to;
- i) approve the recommendations made in section 3.3 of this report on the prioritisation of applications to the Scottish Executive Local Capital Grants Scheme for 2003/2004;
 - ii) agree that, should the top ranked project be successful in securing funding from the Scottish Executive and all other funders, that £10,000 be committed to the project from the Council's match fund in 2003/04; and,
 - iii) otherwise note the contents of this report.

Fiona Lees
Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources
11 November 2002

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS **Nil**

**IMPLEMENTATION OFFICER: Melvin Griffin, External Funding and
Sustainability Officer**

AGENDA