

# EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

IRVINE VALLEY LOCAL COMMITTEE: 7 February 2001

## IRVINE VALLEY YOUTH PROJECT

### Report by Directors of Educational and Social Services and Corporate Resources

#### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek the endorsement of the Local Committee for funding from the Social Inclusion Challenge Fund to expand the pilot period for the Irvine Valley Youth Project to 18 months.

#### 2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 In October 1999, the Strategic Partnership Group endorsed the decision of the Policy and Resources Committee of December 1999 to award the Irvine Valley Youth Project £6,000 from the Social Inclusion Challenge Fund to develop a facility for young people from the Newmilns and Darvel areas.
- 2.2 This is a local youth diversion project based on a successful model in the Garnock Valley. The project will provide a "shell" premises and sessional workers so that a "dry bar" can be established where young people can make decisions about their own activities. It is anticipated that the "dry bar" will be self-financing.
- 2.3 Suitable premises were identified in July 2000 at which time application was made for planning consent and building warrants.
- 2.4 The original financial breakdown for the project included £3,120 for staffing.
- 2.5 Pre-conditions for the building warrant completion certificate have resulted in an additional £1,500 being required for building operations.
- 2.6 Should this be met from the original award, only £1,620 will be available for staff costs which will result in the reduction of youth work support to the project and the overall lifespan of the initiative.

#### 3. PROPOSAL

- 3.1 It is proposed that the project expand its operational period to 18 months to allow:
- A reasonable period over which meaningful youth development work can take place
  - A realistic timescale in which further funding can be sought.
- 3.2 £10,000 is sought from the Social Inclusion Challenge Fund to meet the running costs of the project for a further year. The breakdown of costs for a further year's operation is as follows:

• Rent	£ 4,200
• Heating/lighting	£ 700
• Insurance	£ 300
• Staff	<u>£ 4.800</u>
	£10,000

**3.3** Due to difficulties in identifying suitable premises and the associated costs, there has been a delay in the project start. Young people have been actively involved in the planning of the programme over the summer period and this additional funding will ensure the effective delivery of this work.

#### **4. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

**4.1** NIL

#### **5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

**5.1** The full cost of this project can be met from the Social Inclusion Challenge Fund.

#### **6. RECOMMENDATION**

**6.1** The Local Committee is requested to:

- i) indicate whether it supports the proposal for potential financing from the Social Inclusion Challenge Fund as outlined in Section 3 above.

Fiona Lees  
 Director of Corporate Resources  
 24 January 2001

John Mulgrew  
 Director of Educational & Social Services  
 24 January 2001

For further information on this report please contact Sandra Marshall, Project Development Officer, London Road, Kilmarnock Tel: 01563 554607 or Eddie O'Connor, Gateway Centre, The Foregate, Kilmarnock. Tel: 01563 525628

**AGENDA**