

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

KILMARNOCK NORTH LOCAL COMMITTEE – 19 SEPTEMBER 2000

SOCIAL INCLUSION CHALLENGE FUND – PROJECT PROPOSAL

Report by the Chief Executive

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek the views of the local committee on the proposed bid to the Social Inclusion Challenge Fund for part funding for a feasibility study into the establishment of a Shopmobility Scheme in Kilmarnock.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 At its meeting of 22 June 2000 the Social Inclusion Strategic Partnership Group agreed that future bids to the Social Inclusion Challenge Fund should first be considered by the appropriate local committee prior to submission to the Strategic Partnership Group and the Council's Policy and Resources Committee.

3. FUNDING BID – SHOPMOBILITY FEASIBILITY STUDY

- 3.1 The proposal to establish a Shopmobility Scheme within Kilmarnock is currently being considered by a small working group comprising the Local Forum on Disability, Kilmarnock Town Centre Management Committee and East Ayrshire Council. The established criteria for such a scheme is that Shopmobility Schemes should:
- be open to all people with mobility problems whether temporary or permanent regardless of their place of residence;
 - provide both manual and powered wheelchairs and powered scooters;
 - have car parking available within 40 meters and provide parking for both holders and non-holders of orange badges who use the scheme; and
 - operate for a period of at least 4 hours on normal shopping days excluding Sundays and Bank Holidays.
- 3.2 To allow for the project to be established on a sound financial and operational base a feasibility study is required. The study will report on all operational matters including:
- staffing and management issues;
 - location;
 - start up costs; and
 - sustainability
- 3.3 The total cost of the feasibility study is £4,000.
- 3.4 East Ayrshire Council's Development Services Department has agreed to contribute £2,000 towards the cost of the study. The partners plan to submit a funding bid for the remaining £2,000 to the Council's Social Inclusion Challenge Fund.

4. LEGAL/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 It is anticipated that this contribution can be made from the existing challenge fund budget.

5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The establishment of a Shopmobility Scheme is consistent with the principles of social inclusion.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 The local committee is asked to support the bid to the Social Inclusion Challenge Fund for a feasibility study to be carried out into the establishment of a local Shopmobility Scheme.

David Montgomery
Chief Executive

TM/EF
31/8/2000

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS NIL

For further information on the contents of this report contact Tom Merry, Kilmarnock Social Inclusion Team Leader. Telephone 01563 524800

AGENDA