

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

KILMARNOCK SOUTH LOCAL COMMITTEE – 13 SEPTEMBER 2000

SOCIAL INCLUSION CHALLENGE FUND – PROJECT PROPOSALS

Report by the Chief Executive

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek the views of the local committee regarding three proposed funding bids to the Council's Social Inclusion Challenge Fund.

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. PROPOSED FUNDING BIDS

- 3.1 **Shopmobility feasibility study:** 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.

- 3.1.1 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

- 3.1.2 The total cost of the feasibility study is £4,000.

- 3.1.3 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.

3.2 Shortlees Youth Shelter: Service provision for young people and issues of youth disorder are included for priority action within the Kilmarnock South Social Inclusion Early Action Plan. A series of meetings have taken place regarding these issues and the proposal to seek funding to site a “youth shelter” within the area has been identified within the early action plan.

3.2.1 The shelter would provide a covered seating area with open sides and has proved effective in other areas throughout the country.

3.2.2 The total cost to purchase and install a shelter is £4,000. It is planned that an application to meet the total cost of the shelter be submitted to the Council’s Social Inclusion Challenge Fund.

3.3 Shortlees Community Conference/Open Day: The former CHASE Management Committee plan to host a community conference/open day which will provide the residents of Shortlees with an opportunity to identify local issues and actions to address them.

3.3.1 The event will take place within Shortlees Community Centre and will take the form of a number of stands staffed by organisations/agencies. The public will also be asked their opinion of the area and to complete a questionnaire.

3.3.2 The information accessed on the day will be collated and an action plan, which will be taken forward by the CHASE committee, will be prepared.

3.3.3 The CHASE group wish to apply to the Social Inclusion Challenge Fund to cover the cost of organising and advertising the event. Estimated cost £600.

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 projects identified at Section 3 are consistent with the principles of social inclusion.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 The local committee is asked to:

i) endorse or otherwise the bids identified at Section 3 of the report.

David Montgomery
Chief Executive

TM/EF
31/8/2000

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS
NIL

AGENDA

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