

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 19 FEBRUARY 2004

MATCH FUND BUDGET 2003/04

Joint Report by Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources and Director of Educational and Social Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide an update to Committee on spend against the 2003/04 match-fund budget and make recommendations for future funding.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 At the Policy and Resources Committee of 10 April 2003, Members approved a match fund allocation to the following projects as part of the Council's required contribution towards an application by both of these groups to the Scottish Executive's 2003/04 Local Capital Grants Scheme:

- The Zone in Dalmellington – Up to £20,000
- New Cumnock Youth Centre – Up to £15,000.

- 2.2 Committee placed three specific conditions on the match fund award, the first of which directly relates to the overall funding package, as follows:

“In the event that either project is not able to proceed by 31 October 2003, due to a funding gap, then the Match Fund award will be withdrawn and a new application will require to be submitted to the Match Fund, detailing the revised funding profile”.

3. UPDATE POSITION

- 3.1 Both of the applications submitted to the Local Capital Grants Scheme in 2003/04 were refused by the Scottish Executive.
- 3.2 The Local Capital Grants Scheme is again available in 2004/05, and the Zone project is the only applicant to the Scottish Executive from the East Ayrshire area.
- 3.3 The Department of Education and Social Services has reviewed the project's funding requirements and in line with the conditions of grant of the Local Capital Grants Scheme, that require 'Local Authorities to commit to provide 25% of match funding related to the total eligible costs of the project', Committee is asked to increase the level of support by £5,000 and agree a total match fund award of up to £25,000.
- 3.4 It is recommended that the Department of Educational and Social Services monitor progress of this match fund award throughout 2004/05 and that the outcome of the funding bid to the Local Capital Grants Scheme is reported to Committee.

3.5 A further application in respect of the New Cumnock Youth Centre is not anticipated, therefore Committee is asked to note that the £15,000 has been set against the match fund's unallocated balance for 2003/04.

4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The development of a new youth facility is identified as an action within the Community Plan's Promoting Community Learning Action Plan. This proposal therefore assists the Council and its Community Planning Partners take forward this activity.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Any resources surplus at 31 March 2004 will be carried forward to the new financial year.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 The Policy and Resources Committee is asked to:

- i) approve the allocation of up to £25,000 for the Zone project in 2004/05 as a match against the project's submission to the Scottish Executive's Local Capital Grants Scheme in 2004/05;
- ii) remit the Department of Educational and Social Services to monitor project progress, reporting appropriately to Committee;
- iii) note that the award to New Cumnock Youth Centre has been withdrawn; and
- iv) otherwise, note the content of the report.

Fiona Lees

Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources

John Mulgrew

Director of Educational and Social Services

4 February 2004

IMPLEMENTATION OFFICER: Kay Gilmour, Head of Community Support The Zone.

IMPLEMENTATION OFFICER: Gwen Barker, Community Planning and Partnership Manager, Local Capital Grants Scheme.