

# EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

## POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 21 FEBRUARY 2002

### LOCAL COMMITTEE COMMUNITY GRANTS SCHEME

Report by Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources

#### 1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To propose the allocation of funding to Local Committees in respect of the Council's Community Grants Budget for 2002/2003.

#### 2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 At its meeting on 6 April 2000, the Council agreed a revised funding formula for the allocation of monies to Local Committees.
- 2.2 The principal objective of the Scheme in supporting the Council's Plan is 'to develop and put into practice a system of resource allocation which prioritises to those most in need.'
- 2.3 On 15 February 2001, the Policy and Resources Committee agreed that the budget for the Local Community Grants Scheme for 2001/2002 should be raised, in line with inflation to £170,530.

#### 3 THE EXISTING FUNDING FORMULA FOR LOCAL COMMITTEES

- 3.1 The Community Grants budget is allocated to Local Committees taking into consideration issues of deprivation and poverty in conjunction with a client based approach recognising vulnerability. The following statistical categories are used:-

<b>Population</b>	the total population
<b>Elderly Population</b>	the number of people aged 60 and above
<b>Deprivation</b>	the number of people in Postcode Sectors classed as deprived by the Scottish Area Deprivation Index developed by the Scottish Executive
<b>Clothing &amp; Footwear Grants</b>	the number of primary school children receiving these grants
<b>Rural population</b>	the number of people who stay in postcode sectors with a population density of less than 100 persons per square metre (as determined by the Scottish Executive)
<b>Non Coalfield SIP Designation</b>	for those Local Areas that are <u>not</u> part of the Coalfield SIP, a figure of 10% of the Local Area population

- 3.2 The total pointage allocated is then expressed as a percentage of the sum of all Local Committee areas, and this percentage applied to the distribution of grant monies.
- 3.3 In summary, this system places an equal basis on all of the indicators, with the greater emphasis, and therefore pointage, being determined by 'the number of people included in each Indicator Classification'.
- 3.4 The 'Non-Coalfield SIP Area' indicator incorporates a factor which seeks to provide an element of compensation to those parts of the authority which do not benefit from Central Government SIP funding. This has been derived from the addition of 10% to the total population of Local Committee areas outwith the Coalfield SIP, the sum of which equates to the level of compensation previously allocated under the Non-Urban Programme designation.

#### **4 PROPOSED CHANGE TO ALLOCATION**

- 4.1 In Autumn 2001, the Scottish Executive allocated £6.75 million over 3 years to the pathfinder areas of NW Kilmarnock and Shortlees/Riccarton area. This funding is called the Better Neighbourhood Services Fund (BNSF).
- 4.2 In order to maintain the element of compensation to areas not benefiting from central government funding it is appropriate that a modification is made to the pointage table. This will modify the pointage column from 'Non-Coalfield SIP Designation' to 'Non Coalfield/BNSF Designation.'
- 4.3 Accordingly, the additional 10% of population pointage awarded under this heading will apply to the number of people who are not within a SIP or BNSF area.
- 4.4 The proposed change effects two Local Committee Areas – Kilmarnock North and Kilmarnock South. A very small number of houses are also located in the Kilmarnock Central Local Committee area, but they have been excluded from this amendment given that the figures would have a negligible impact.
- 4.5 The following table shows the new pointage to be considered for each area, based on the deduction of the BNSF population from each.

<b>Local Committee Area</b>	<b>Total Population</b>	<b>BNSF Population</b>	<b>Non-BNSF Population</b>	<b>10% Pointage added</b>
Kilmarnock North	15610	5907	9703	970
Kilmarnock South	12342	5539	6803	680

Source:

- 4.6 The Clothing and Footwear grant statistics for the financial year 2000/2001 from the Department of Education Services have been updated.
- 4.7 The effect of the new pointage is highlighted in Appendix 1.

#### **5 INFLATIONARY INCREASE**

- 5.1 It is proposed that the Council increase the overall amount available in the 2002/2003 Local Community Grant Scheme in line with inflation.
- 5.2 The total amount would therefore rise from £170,530 to £175,497.

## **6 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 None arising directly from this report.

## **7 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 The Grants Scheme will operate with the guidance issued on the Code of Guidance on Funding External Bodies and Following the Public Pound.

## **8 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

8.1 The overall level of funding being distributed to Local Committees with the Community Grants budget allocation will rise from £170,530 to £175,497.

8.2 This figure is in line with the Council's budget for 2002/2003

## **9 RECOMMENDATIONS**

9.1 The Policy and Resources Committee is asked to agree:-

- (i) the allocation of Local Committee Community Grant funds as detailed in this report which is on the basis of the existing indicators and the additional pathfinder area indicator;
- (ii) the increase in total funds available to the Local Community Grants Scheme from £170,530 to £175,497, in line with inflation; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of this report.

Fiona Lees  
**Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources**

28 January 2002

### **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Appendix 1 – Proposed Distribution of Community Grants Budget

Anyone wishing further information should contact Bill Walkinshaw on 01563 576135

**AGENDA**