

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 22 FEBRUARY 2001

SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT

Report by Director of Educational and Social Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1** The purpose of this report is to advise Members of Policy and Resources Committee of the successful evaluations of the projects supported through Service Level Agreements and to confirm funding arrangements for these organisations for 2001/2

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1.** Members will recall that service level agreements have been developed in consultation with Bellsbank Women's Project and North West Youth Project.

- 2.2** The service level agreement format is in two parts:

- i. The Core Document is the framework within which all Service Level Agreements will operate and will not alter from one agreement to another. The document sets out the Council's expectations of the organisation.
- ii. The Schedule is specific to each individual organisation, but based on a common format. It provides fuller details of the Project Specification, premises, management arrangements, council contribution, duration of agreement and review arrangements.

The schedule requires to be read in conjunction with the core document and together they make up the service level agreement.

- 2.3** These standard documents reflect the principles and guidance as set out within Following the Public Pound and the Council's commitment to the voluntary sector to develop three year funding arrangements.

3. REPORT

- 3.1** The Projects have been in receipt of annual funding which provides for their general running and staffing costs in order that they can deliver the service identified within the service level agreement. In agreeing the detail of the service level agreement the voluntary organisations have committed to regular evaluation which reflects the principles set out in the Council's commitment to the voluntary sector to develop three year funding arrangement for certain organisations.

- 3.2** As part of the regular evaluation process, the opportunity is available to consider further project development for which further funding can be applied.
- 3.3** In considering an award for these organisations, members linked the awards with inflation. The majority of costs for each project at this time relates to staffing costs. Accordingly, in the year 2001/2002 the Council budget has identified an allowance of 3% for inflation.
- 3.4** Members may also wish to consider encouraging each project to investigate external funding opportunities.
- 3.5** Due to changes in insurance requirements, each organisation carries insurance for directors and officers liability. Funding for this requirement is included in the grant recommendation.

3.6

Project	Grant Awarded 2000/2001	Grant Recommended 2001/2002	Comment
Bellsbank Women's Project	£19,540	£20,126	The project plays an important role in organising adult education courses, health promotions and collaborating with national organisations in order to improve the quality of life for women and their families. The project is well attended, offering courses and development opportunities beyond Bellsbank, from the surrounding areas
North West Youth Project	£57,856	£59,591	The project offers informal educational support to many young people in the North West area of Kilmarnock. The project seeks to address issues of social exclusion and health using peer education methods and other social contact. The project offers access to the council's information systems to young people in the area.

- 3.7** As this is the final year of the three year service level agreement a full evaluation of each project will be put in place.

4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Support to the Voluntary and Community sector is compatible with the Council's Social Strategy, Partnership Agreement and the principles of participation and involvement through Social Inclusion.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The Service Level Agreement regulates the relationship between the Council and the Voluntary/Community organisation during the period for which funding is approved.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The Council has committed itself in principle to three years funding arrangements for these identified voluntary bodies.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 It is recommended that members of the Policy and Resources Committee:
- (ii) agree the recommendations for the final year award; and
 - (iii) invite the Director of Educational and Social Services to progress a full evaluation of each project and report to Policy and Resources.

John Mulgrew
 Director of Educational and Social Services
 6 February 2001

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. Policy and Resources Report 27 March 1998: Grants to Outside Bodies 1998/9, Report by the Chief Executive;
2. Policy and Resources Report 23 April 1998: Grants to Outside Bodies 1998/9, Report by the Chief Executive;
3. Policy and Resources Report 18 March 1999: Service Level Agreement- Core Document, Report by the Chief Executive;
4. Policy and Resources Report 18 March 2000: Service Level Agreement- Core Document, Report by the Chief Executive; and
5. Policy statements as further appendices to individual schedules.

Members wishing further information should contact Fiona Lees, Depute Chief Executive, tel: (01563) 576103 or Anne Jackson, Principal Community Education Officer, tel: (01563) 576126

AGENDA
