

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE - 10 APRIL 2003

MATCH-FUND BUDGET

Report By Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To recommend to the Policy and Resources Committee awards from the financial year 2003/2004 Match-Fund budget in respect of two new youth projects - The Zone, Dalmellington and New Cumnock Youth Centre.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Over the course of the last 12 months, two new youth facility projects have been planned by voluntary organisations in East Ayrshire, who are seeking funding from a variety of sources for the capital build/refurbishment and three year running costs associated with the programme of development activities. These two projects are:
- i) The Zone in Dalmellington, planned by Bellsbank Adventure Playground;
 - ii) New Cumnock Youth Centre, planned by New Cumnock Environmental Regeneration Volunteers (N.E.R.V.)
- 2.2 Funding is being sought for these projects from, amongst others, the Scottish Executive through the Local Capital Grants Scheme, the Community Fund, East Ayrshire Coalfield Area Social Inclusion Partnership and Trusts.
- 2.3 In order to access the Scottish Executive Local Capital Grants Scheme, a percentage contribution from the Local Authority is required.
- 2.4 At an Emergency Powers Committee of 21 November 2002 the Council prioritised the Zone project followed by the New Cumnock Youth Centre. This remains unchanged. Correspondence has since been received from the Scottish Executive as part of it's assessment process seeking confirmation of the Council's match funding.

3 SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE LOCAL CAPITAL GRANTS SCHEME

- 3.1 The Local Capital Grants Scheme (LCGS) is a competitive fund contained with the Scottish Executive's Scottish Rural Partnership Fund.
- 3.2 Under the scheme, grants of up to 50% of eligible costs of projects are available, subject to a maximum grant limit of £100,000.

- 3.3 The local authority in whose area the project lies, must be prepared to match fund every project submitted by 25% of the total eligible costs, with the balancing contribution being raised by the applicant.
- 3.4 In exceptional circumstances, the Department may consider grant-aiding projects where an applicant organisation can demonstrate that it is able to raise 50% of the project costs without recourse to the local authority. However, in such cases, the local authority will still be expected to commit 25% initially, to cover costs in the event that the community is unable to raise the full 50%.’
- 3.5 ‘Eligible costs’ refer to the cost of capital building works only.

4 MATCH-FUND APPLICATIONS

Match fund applications were received by the Zone and the New Cumnock Youth Centre as part of the local authority’s required contribution towards the Local Capital Grant.

- 4.1 The two applications have been assessed from officers representative of a range of departments, and agreed to recommend to the Policy and Resources Committee the following award figures:

Project	Total Capital Cost	Match-Fund Award	Other Sources of Council Contribution*	Total Council Contribution	Expected Leverage from LCGS
The Zone, Dalmellington	£395,000	Up to £20,000	£27,500	£47,500	£95,000
New Cumnock Youth Centre	£300,000	Up to £15,000	£22,500	£37,500	£75,000

** Note: Both Youth Centres will use either property or land which are owned by the Council. The in-kind effect of sale or lease of these to the Voluntary Groups concerned has been factored in as a Council contribution. Secondly, the figure contains a grant package from Development Services based on the number of people to be employed, if the projects are successful.*

- 4.2 As a result of the assessment the following conditions are placed on the Match-Fund Awards to both projects:
- a) That in the event that either project is not able to proceed by 31 October 2003, due to a funding gap or other, then this Match-Fund award will be withdrawn, and a new application will require to be submitted to the Match-Fund, detailing the revised funding profile.
 - b) That both projects confirm their planning arrangements for the provision of services for children and young people with disabilities, and that these are confirmed as appropriate by the Department of Educational and Social Services.

- c) That both projects confirm their project outcomes, means of delivering those outcomes through implementation plans, and the method of Monitoring and Evaluation, and that these are confirmed as appropriate by the Department of Educational and Social Services.

5 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The award detailed at Section 4 can be fully met from the 2003/2004 Match-Fund budget.

6 POLICY/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no policy/legal implications arising from this report.

7 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 Committee is asked to:

- i) approve an award of up to £20,000 to The Zone, Dalmellington, subject to the conditions set out in Section 4 of this report;
- ii) approve an award of up to £15,000 to The New Cumnock Youth Centre, subject to the conditions set out in Section 4 of this report; and
- iii) otherwise note the contents of this report.

Fiona Lees
Director of Corporate Resources/Depute Chief Executive

FL/MG
2 April 2003

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. Emergency Power Committee - 21 November 2002

Members wishing further information should contact Melvin Griffin, External Funding Officer, Tel: (01290) 428359.

IMPLEMENTATION OFFICERS: FIONA LEES/KAY GILMOUR