

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

14 JUNE 2001

OBJECTIVE 3 PARTNERSHIP (SCOTLAND) LIMITED

APPLICATION FOR ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMPANY

Report by Director of Development Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1** To (a) inform the Committee of the opportunity to become an associate member of Objective 3 Partnership (Scotland) Limited and (b) to recommend that the Council applies for associate membership.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1** Objective 3 Partnership (Scotland) Limited is the Programme Executive (Secretariat) which supports the Scottish Objective 3 Partnership and manages the Objective 3 Programme through a delegated authority from the Scottish Executive. The wider Objective 3 Partnership consists of local authorities, local enterprise companies, further and higher education institutions, national training organisations, the voluntary sector, the Equal Opportunities Commission and the social and economic Partners.
- 2.2** The full members of the company are the representative bodies for the key sectors within the partnership and this currently consists of around 1,000 partner organisations. The memorandum and articles of association for the company provide for all partner organisations to have the opportunity to be kept up to date on matters pertaining to the company through associate membership. Whilst it is the responsibility of the representative body as the full member to ensure they are representing the interests of their constituency, the company is of the view that it would be helpful to offer individual partner organisations an associate membership thus involving the wider partnership more in the running of the company if they so wish.
- 2.3** Associate members of the company will be able to attend Annual and Extraordinary General Meetings and will also receive a copy of the Annual Report for the company. They would, however, be unable to vote themselves on any resolutions.
- 2.4** All applications for associate membership to the company will be laid before the Board for consideration and approval as per the articles of association for the company.

3. DISCUSSION

- 3.1** The Scottish Objective 3 Operational Programme 2000-2006 is the vehicle through which will be delivered £31M European Social Fund support to eligible revenue projects. East Ayrshire Council has benefited from this funding through previous programmes and has recently successfully applied to the current programme for funding to support the Conduit Project.
- 3.2** East Ayrshire Council, along with the other Councils in the West of Scotland, is additionally a part owner of a parallel company Strathclyde European Partnership Limited. This is a longer established company which manages the Western Scotland Objective 2 European Regional Development Fund 2000 – 2006 Programme.
- 3.3** Associate Membership, of the Objective 3 Partnership (Scotland) Limited will provide the Council with an opportunity to develop its awareness of the opportunities provided by this new Company and also to be more involved in its running, if it so wished.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1** Nil

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1** Nil

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1** It is recommended that the Committee remit to the Director of Development Services, in consultation with the Solicitor to the Council to apply for associate membership of Objective 3 Partnership (Scotland) Limited.

Stephen Chorley
 Director of Development Services
 DH/PM
 23 May 2001

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 1.** Correspondence from Objective 3 Partnership (Scotland) Limited dated April, 2001.

Any person wishing to inspect the background paper listed above, or discuss this report, should contact David Hewet on 01563 554608.

AGENDA
