

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 14TH JUNE 2001

REQUEST FOR FUNDING – WOMEN'S FORUM

Report by the Director of Community Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To invite the Committee to consider allocating funds to the Women's Forum Officers Working Group to support the Council Initiative in 2001.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Following discussion with local organisations, the Women's Forum Officers Working Group proposed to develop a programme of events during the week ending 8th March 2002 (International Women's Day).
- 2.2 The programme would replicate a successful programme of events organised by the former authorities in 1995, supported by appropriate staff from the former Strathclyde Regional Council.
- 2.3 The Council's role in developing the programme would be primarily of facilitator with a number of women's groups and organisations within East Ayrshire being encouraged to organise events which supported the aims and objectives and the Women's Forum.
- 2.4 Organisations involved would represent many areas of East Ayrshire and previous experience suggests that the programme would attract a wide range of women in the community.

3. DISCUSSION

- 3.1 The organisation and development of events which would be included in the programme will involve some costs e.g. hire of (Council) halls, tutor fees etc.
- 3.2 It is felt that the allocation of a budget for these costs would go a long way to facilitating the involvement of a wide range of women's groups in East Ayrshire.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 At the present time the Council has not allocated funding to the Women's Forum and it is felt that a nominal budget of £2,500 for these proposals would facilitate most if not all of these. This figure can be met from the Committee's available resources.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Nil.

6. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Development of a programme of this nature is in accord with the Council's Equal Opportunities Policy.

7. CONCLUSIONS

7.1 Following detailed discussions with representatives of a number of women's groups/organisations in the community, the Women's Forum Officers Working Group propose to co-ordinate a programme of events culminating in a celebration of International Women's Day 2002.

7.2 It is felt that nominal funding of £2,500 for the Women's Forum would allow most if not all of the proposals currently under discussion to be implemented. Effort would also be made to secure other appropriate sponsorship.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 The Committee is recommended to:-

- (i) make funds of £2,500 available to the Women's Forum to develop a programme of events leading up to and involving International Women's Day 2002; and
- (ii) otherwise note the contents of the report.

William Stafford
Director of Community Services

31st May 2001

WS/JFC/RRS

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

Nil

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AGENDA