



SPORT AND SOCIAL INCLUSION

Board Meeting – 6 February 2003

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To advise members of a submission submitted to the New Opportunities Fund for the north of the authority to complement SportsScotland's SIP Lottery Programme for communities in the South of the authority.

2. NEW OPPORTUNITIES: PE & SPORT IN SCHOOLS – ACTIVE STEPS FUNDING

- 2.1 The Fund aims to:
- use sport to divert young people from criminal activity or behaviour likely to lead to such activity; and
 - promote positive behaviour to aid in the reduction of truancy and exclusion from schools.

3. EAST AYRSHIRE APPLICATION – “NEW SPORTING FUTURES PROJECT”

- 3.1 The East Ayrshire North Application is entitled “New Sporting Futures”. The philosophy of the project is to:
- promote more equitable participation in sport;
 - develop new ways of delivering sport by working with, and linking to, new policy areas and partners;
 - promote a community development approach to delivering sport;
 - promote “sport and physical activity” as a contributor to helping to combat social exclusion;
 - access new resources for sport and target existing resources and funding programmes;
 - develop innovative solutions to local needs and sharing progressive practices;
 - contribute to a long term strategic approach to the provision of sport.
- 3.2 The available funding from NOF: PE & Sport in Schools – Active Steps Programme is £96,000 and this has been combined with a similar application to SportsScotland's SIP's Programme of £113,000 in order to implement the project on an East Ayrshire wide basis.
- 3.3 If successful, the overall project will employ 4 members of staff, as follows:
- Youth Sport Development Officer (SIP Area)
 - Youth Sport Development Officer (Former Kilmarnock & Loudoun Area)
 - Club Coach & Volunteer Development Officer (EA Wide)
 - Clerical Assistant (P/T).

- 3.4 A more comprehensive description of the Project and its key aims and objectives are available in the “New Sporting Futures” Business Plan, a copy of which is available from the Manager Social Inclusion.

4. PROJECT MANAGEMENT

- 4.1 The Recreation Services Section will manage the “New Sporting Futures” project as this will allow newly appointed Youth Sport Officers to liaise with an existing team of Leisure Development staff.
- 4.2 As members will be aware the Recreation Services team currently manage the Social Inclusion funded Recreation Partnership Project and Community Health Improvement Partnership (CHIP-VAN) Project and this has proved successful in ensuring a co-ordinated approach to activity.

5. SUBMISSION OF BIDS

- 5.1 In conjunction with the Manager Social Inclusion, Recreation Services submitted applications to both the New Opportunities Fund (NOF) and Sportscotland on 19 September 2002.

6. ASSESSMENT PROCESS

- 6.1 Sportscotland approved and officially offered funding for the project on 15 November 2002 thus providing the match funding for the Coalfield Communities in East Ayrshire. East Ayrshire Council accepted this offer on 15 December 2002 and the information was released in an official press statement by Sportscotland early January 2003. A decision on the New Opportunities Fund application should be known by February / March 2003.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 The Partnership Board is asked to:
- i) note the success of the bid to Sportscotland;
 - ii) request the Manager Social Inclusion report to the Board on the outcome of the NOF application; and otherwise
 - iii) note the contents of the report.

Gwen Barker
Manager Social Inclusion
27 February 2002