

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Report by the Chief Executive

Corporate Services Committee: - 27 June 2007

Subject: Summary of Voluntary Grants 2006/2007

1. Purpose

- 1.1** The purpose of this report is to provide an analysis of voluntary grants approved during 2006/07.

2. Background

- 2.1** The Corporate Services Committee in March 2007 approved changes to the voluntary grants procedures. Within the approved changes, it was agreed that a report be brought to Committee after the year end giving additional information regarding analysis of the grants approved during the financial year.
- 2.2** Some of the information likely to be provided in future years has not historically been asked for through the grants process – such as grant application by ward, deprivation area, Council priority, etc. During the grants process for 2007/08, this information will be requested and reported on in 2008. However, for 2006/07 grants the information is limited to the information available within the previous application forms.

3. Main Issues

- 3.1** From the 2006/07 budget, grants applications totalling £0.641m were paid. This excludes grants paid out to old people's welfare organisations at Christmas and those paid to community councils.
- 3.2** Appendix 1 analyses these grants by different categories:-
- (a) By awarding department – 68% of grant funding was awarded through recommendations made by Corporate Finance, with 8% by Education and 24% by Social Work.
 - (b) By value of award – There were 105 grants paid through the grants budget - 30% of these were awarded to organisations receiving grants over £5,000 (32 grants, worth £0.514m), 57% to organisations receiving grants between £500 and £4,999 (59 grants, worth £0.122m) and the remaining 13% for grants of less than £500 (14 organisations, worth £0.005m)
 - (c) By reason – the majority of grant funding (77%, equivalent to £0.494m) is used by organisations for running costs, with smaller sums being used for the purchase of equipment (7%, equivalent to £0.045m), one-off or annual events (6%, equivalent to £0.038m) and the remainder on repairs, travel and ad hoc costs.

- (d) By group type – the majority of the funding is used by advice groups (59% - £0.382m), for sports groups (18% - £0.116m) and for children's groups (10% - £0.062m). The remainder being used for elderly groups and entertainments groups.

4. Financial implications

- 4.1** There are no financial implications.

5. Personnel Issues

- 5.1** There are no personnel issues.

6. Risk Analysis

- 6.1** No risk analysis was required.

7. Conclusions

- 7.1** Analysis suggested that grants awarded to voluntary organisations by the Council are used in a variety of ways to help the local community and vary greatly in amount.
- 7.2** With additional information being requested through the newly introduced grants procedures, further analysis will be reported to Members on the grants awarded during 2007/8.

8. Recommendations

- 8.1** The Committee is invited to note the report.

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Date: 18 June 2007

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Appendix: Grant analysis summary

Background papers: Grant application summary information

Wards affected: All wards