

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services

Corporate and Efficient Governance Committee – 24 March 2010

Subject: Grant Applications

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Committee with an update on grants to voluntary organisations from the Trust Fund and Dumbarton Common Good budgets.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Corporate and Efficient Governance Committee on 26 March 2008 agreed the new grants administration procedures implemented during 2008/09.
- 2.2 The Council continues to administer grants for Strategic Partner identification, Community Councils, Dumbarton Common Good and Trust Funds and the Elderly Welfare Christmas payout.

3. Main Issues

Trust Fund grant application - Continued

- 3.1 A request for funding of £4,100 was received from Age Concern Vale of Leven and continued by the Corporate & Efficient Governance Committee on 27 January 2010 for further information to be provided. Details are shown in Appendix A, and Members should note officer's recommendation of £nil.
- 3.2 During year ending 31 March 2009 the organisation had an overall increase in funds of £3,937 (restricted increase £4,631, unrestricted decrease of £694)
- 3.3 As at 31 March 2009 the group held unrestricted funds of £6,810 and restricted funds of £15,549 in the bank.
- 3.4 The restricted funds are to be used for the caravan annual costs and the unrestricted funds are for the group's running costs of which a separate grant of £4,746 has been awarded by the CVS during 2009/10.

- 3.5 The projections (based on no grant being awarded during 2009/10) are that no funds would be available for the running of the caravans 2010/11 and a small deficit would be held at the end of 2009/10. The organisation is free to apply for Council or Trust Fund grant funding for running costs in 2010/11.
- 3.6 The organisation chose to use the funds held as at 31 March 2009 to upgrade the existing caravan (£5,000) and purchased a new caravan (£9,000) in the latter part of 2009/10 and did not hold any funds for running costs of these caravans.

Dumbarton Common Good Fund

- 3.7 One request for funding (meeting Fund criteria) has been received from organisations totalling £10,000. Details are shown in Appendix A, and Members should note officer's recommendation of £Nil.

4. Personnel Issues

- 4.1 There are no personnel issues.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1 Assuming approval of grants recommendations, the Dumbarton Common Good budgeted spend would not be increased further in 2009/10.

6. Risk Analysis

- 6.1 The Council must consider financial and reputational risks when considering grant applications. The financial risk is not only that the Council and Common Good Fund remain within budget, but also that the voluntary organisation is in a long term viable position. Organisations funded by the Council and the Common Good Fund must also comply with Conditions of Grant which cover issues such as discrimination, health and safety, insurance, etc.

7. Equalities Impact

- 7.1 No significant issues were identified in a screening for potential equality impact of this report

8. Conclusions and Recommendations

8.1 Grants shown in Appendix A are being recommended following officer's assessment of financial need and favourable impact to residents within the Council area.

8.2 The Committee is invited to agree the recommendations for:

- (a) Trust Fund grant application £nil
- (b) Dumbarton Common Good Fund applications £nil

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Date: 10 March 2010

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Appendix Appendix A: Detail of applications for assessment

Background Papers: Grant applications

Wards Affected: All