

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Report by the Chief Executive

Corporate Services Committee: 31 January 2007

Subject: Grants to Voluntary Organisations

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Committee with an update on the budget position of Grants to Voluntary Organisations.
- 1.2 The report also provides details of grant applications put forward for Committee approval.

2. Background

- 2.1 Previously in 2005/2006 grant applications in respect of Local Grants, Social Work and Education Grants were considered by the relevant departmental Committees.
- 2.2 At the Council Tax setting on 9 February 2006 it was agreed to rationalise these grants into one budget heading and reduce the budget for efficiencies, this report incorporates these changes. This means that there is one main budget now for what were previously Local grants, Central grants, Social Work grants and Education grants.
- 2.3 At the Council meeting on 25 October 2006 Members agreed to transfer £40,000 from the Grants to Voluntary Organisations to the Dumbarton Common Good Fund to fund West Dunbartonshire's Citizens Advice Bureau.
- 2.4 Due to the budgetary pressures faced by the Local Grants Budget a Motion was agreed at the Council meeting of 25 October 2006 that a virement transfer of £60,000 be agreed between the Chief Executive, Director of Education & Cultural Services, Acting Director of Social Work and the Head of Finance.

3. Main Issues

3.1 Grants to Voluntary Organisations 2006/2007

The current budgetary position is set out in Appendix A and highlights a balance of £32,484.24 in the Grants to Voluntary Organisations Budget. This includes the transfer of £60,000 as noted in 2.4.

- 3.2 Grant applications received have been assessed by officers as being eligible for grant (totalling £22,750), these are summarised in Appendix B and detailed in Appendix C. If these recommendations are agreed the balance of the Grants to Voluntary Organisations budget would be £9,734.24.
- 3.3 The Committee should note that implications arising from grant recommendations made - which fall below the level of grant requested - have been discussed with the relevant organisations.
- 3.4 One grant application (Unit 23 Skatepark) was continued pending further information at the last Committee. This application has been added as a separate item later in the agenda and is not included within totals quoted in this report.

Dumbarton Common Good Fund 2006/2007

- 3.5 No direct applications have been received with regards to the Dumbarton Common Good Fund but the Committee should note officers' recommendations in Appendix C, this is summarised in Appendix B and totals £500.

Community Council Grants 2006/2007

- 3.6 The current budgetary position is set out in Appendix A, highlighting a balance of £6,482.55 in the Community Council Grants Budget. There are no Community Council applications for consideration at this time.

Grants awarded by Delegated Approval

- 3.7 Applications for grant from organisations requesting urgent funding outwith the Corporate Services Committee have been awarded grants by Delegated Approval of £5,680. These grants are included within Appendix A and are summarised in Appendix D.

4. Personnel Issues

- 4.1 There are no personnel issues.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1 The budget position is noted within point 3 of this report. If recommendations in 3.1-3.7 are agreed this would leave an annual budget of:-

	£
Grants to Voluntary Organisations	9,734.24
Community Council Grants	6,482.55

6. Conclusions

6.1 A number of grants as summarised in Appendix B and detailed in Appendix C are being recommended following normal assessment of financial need and favourable impact to residents within the Council area.

7. Recommendations

7.1 The Committee is invited to agree the officers' recommendations for:-

- (a) Grants to Voluntary Organisations 2006/2007 (£22,750); and
- (b) Dumbarton Common Good Fund 2006/2007 (£500).

David McMillan
Chief Executive
Date: 18 January 2007

Wards Affected: All wards affected

Appendix

- A: Budget Update
- B: Summary of grants presented
- C: Detail of grants presented
- D: Grants awarded by Delegated approval

Background Papers: Grant applications

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