

Report

Report to:	Enterprise Resources Committee
Date of Meeting:	17 March 2010
Report by:	Executive Director (Enterprise Resources)

Subject:	Voluntary Sector and Social Economy Funding
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ Propose funding to voluntary sector agencies and social economy initiatives in 2010/2011.

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that funding totalling £383,667 be allocated to voluntary sector agencies and social economy initiatives as outlined in Section 4 below and listed at Appendix 1.

3. Background

3.1. The Council has historically given significant support to the local community and voluntary sector and to the development of the social economy. This report provides an update on key developments within the sector and on a number of initiatives which the Council has supported in the past. It recommends levels of continuing financial support into 2010/2011 from the Enterprise Resources' budget.

4. Key Voluntary Sector and Social Economy Developments

South Lanarkshire Voluntary Sector Interface

4.1. Considerable work has continued with the CVS Network and SoLVE Volunteer Centre concerning the development of a voluntary sector Interface for South Lanarkshire. The key functions that are expected of these new Interfaces operating at a local authority level are:-

- Support to voluntary organisations operating in the area, both local and those national organisations that deliver services at the local level
- Support to and promotion of volunteering
- Support and development of social enterprise
- Connection between the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) and the third sector

- 4.2. Given the significance of the Interface to the Council, CPP and the local community and voluntary sector, the formal consideration of the Interface was the subject of a report to the Executive Committee on 10 March 2010. It proposed that a single Interface organisation is established for South Lanarkshire and that the Council channels all available funding through the new organisation.
- 4.3. Enterprise Resources has £140,000 of funding available in 2010/11 for Interface development. This funding will ensure continued effective delivery of services by the existing organisations who will be working with the Council in the next financial year to help shape the new organisation.

Social Economy

- 4.4. Considerable development work is also being undertaken to provide support to fledgling social economy organisations across South Lanarkshire. This includes participation in the Lanarkshire Social Economy Partnership, specific pre-Gateway Advisor Support for organisations, development work with CVS Hamilton/East Kilbride's SMART project and the Local Communities Development Trust.
- 4.5. The successful pan-Lanarkshire application to European Challenge Funds submitted by North Lanarkshire Council in 2008 has led to the continued pre-Gateway Advisor support for the sector and specifically supported 14 social enterprises across South Lanarkshire in 2009. It is recommended that £41,667 be provided as match funding in 2010/2011 to support the initiative and secure £140,000 of external funding.

Citizens Advice Bureaux

- 4.6. As part of the national Debt Arrangement Scheme, additional funding for the provision of frontline money advice services was allocated to the Council by the Scottish Government. In addition to supporting the services provided via the Council's Money Advice Service, these resources have been used to provide an annual allocation of £18,000 to each of South Lanarkshire's four Citizens Advice Bureaux. The CABs provide independent money advice services and work in conjunction with the Council in tackling the issues of debt and financial exclusion. It is recommended that £72,000 of funding be continued for 2010/11, amounting to £18,000 for each CAB.

Community Health Initiatives

- 4.7. The Healthy Valleys Initiative and Cambuslang and Rutherglen Community Health Initiative are health improvement and regeneration initiatives supported by the Council. NHS Lanarkshire and the Big Lottery Fund have funds committed to March 2011. Funding from Enterprise Resources of £50,000 (£25,000 each) is required as match in 2010/2011. The Council and NHS Lanarkshire, in conjunction with the two organisations, are considering their future sustainability during 2010.
- 4.8. Up for It Healthy Lifestyles is a health and lifestyle initiative that provides support to individuals from regeneration areas to help address key health and lifestyle issues. It is recommended that £60,000 is committed to the initiative in 2010/2011 that will lever over £400,000 of external funding. This includes specific funding of £10,000 to the Robert Ferguson Centre in Kirkmuirhill to address youth health issues.

Outdoor Resource Base

- 4.9. The Outdoor Resource Base provides experiential opportunities for young people in a wide range of outdoor pursuits. The valuable role that these activities can play in raising the confidence and skills levels of young people is recognised. In order to target the project on clients from the priority regeneration areas, a contribution of £20,000 in 2010/2011 is required. This will lever in Partner funding of £100,000.
- 4.10. All of the funding proposals are summarised at Appendix 1 to this report.

5. Employee Implications

- 5.1. There are no employee implications for the Council.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1. The £383,667 of recommended funding for 2010/2011 can be met from existing Enterprise Resources' budgets in 2010/2011.

7. Other Implications

- 7.1. None.

8. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 8.1. As there is no new policy involved in these proposals, an impact assessment is not required.
- 8.2. Consultation has been carried out with the CVS Network, Healthy Living Initiatives and the individual organisations concerned.

Colin McDowall

Executive Director (Enterprise Resources)

16 February 2010

Link(s) to Council Objectives

- ◆ Working with and respecting others
- ◆ Tackling poverty and deprivation

Previous References

- ◆ Executive Committee, 10 March 2010

List of Background Papers

- ◆ None

Contact for Further Information

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

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Recommended Funding Contributions

Project	Description	Partner/ External Funding Levered	Enterprise Resources contribution for 2010/2011
South Lanarkshire Voluntary Sector Interface	Development and implementation costs Support for continuity of service delivery across existing CVS Network	£190,000	£140,000
Social Economy Development	North Lanarkshire Council pan-Lanarkshire application for Pre-Gateway support for social economy organisations	£140,000	£41,667
Citizens Advice Bureaux	Money advice services in 4 CABs	£45,000	£72,000
Community Health Initiatives	Healthy Valleys Initiative	£170,000	£25,000
	Cambuslang & Rutherglen Community Health Initiative	£220,000	£25,000
	Up for It Healthy Lifestyles	£400,000	£60,000
Outdoor Resource Base	Core costs for 2010/2011	£100,000	£20,000
	Totals	£1,265,000	£383,667