

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

---

COMMITTEE	Finance and Resources
DATE	14 <sup>th</sup> June 2011
DIRECTOR	Gordon McIntosh
TITLE OF REPORT	City Composting Project Funding
REPORT NUMBER:	EPI/11/157

---

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to request retrospective funding for the second year of the city composting project managed by Aberdeen Forward.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended that the Committee approve funding for the Aberdeen Forward City Composting Project for the 2010/2011 financial year based on the information provided in this report.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The funding requested by Aberdeen Forward is £7500. This funding is additional to the budget set by the planning and sustainable development service for the 2010/2011 financial year. Funds are available to cover this cost within the service's environmental policy team budget. The project received Council funding for the 2009/2010 year.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

This project has assisted the Council in reducing the amount of waste sent to Landfill from the Council's Allotment sites. The total amount of landfill diverted from landfill over the life of the project was 141 tonnes. This is equivalent to £7,840 of savings to the Council in terms of landfill tax.

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

Aberdeen Forward is an environmental charity working in the field of sustainable development. Over the past six years the company has developed from a landfill tax charity into an emerging social enterprise with a portfolio of completed and ongoing projects. The company

supports and develops projects with partner organisations from the private and public sector and the local community in Aberdeen.

Aberdeen Forward successfully applied for £49,746 of funding from INCREASE III for the City Composting project in April 2009. The project aimed to divert 150 per annum of green waste from landfill in over nine allotment and community sites.

The INCREASE III programme aims to help not-for-profit, community based organisations develop projects that will increase the reduction, reuse, recycling and composting of waste in line with the move towards a Zero Waste Scotland.

The application outlined that the Council would fund the project for two years. This was a condition of the application being approved. The Council approved £7500 of funding for the 2009/2010 year. Aberdeen Forward expected further funding for the 2010/2011 year however this funding was not agreed within the service budget. This report seeks retrospective funding for the 2001/2011 year.

Since April 2009, the city composting project has run across five community gardens, allotments and housing developments in Aberdeen City. The project has coordinated the physical work involved in establishing and managing composting bays and bins with each site. It has also increased awareness and promotes the benefits of composting to users of each site.

The project aims to ensure composting at each site continues after the project has finished. The achievements of the project against its objectives are outlined in the table below:

Date	Landfill Diverted (tonnes)	Volunteers Involved	Volunteer Hours
October/ November 2009	25	1	14
December 2009/ January 2010	41	2	10
August/ September 2010	25	0	0
October/November 2010	25	0	0
December 2010 /January 2011	25	0	0
<b>Total</b>	141	3	24

Throughout 2010 the Community Service Order team worked at the community composting site and assisted on the project. Over 50 hours were contributed to the project by the team.

Aberdeen Forward is a small environmental organisation. The additional project funding is required to meet the INCREASE III funding application obligations. Aberdeen Forward understood that Council funding had been approved for two years (given the Council's approval of the Increase III application). This money has been spent by the project and therefore any failure to approve the retrospective funding will leave Aberdeen Forward in deficit.

## 6. IMPACT

Aberdeen Forward is an important partner in delivering key Council environmental and waste strategies. They are a key funding body for communities but also have the ability to deliver city wide strategic and partner projects.

Aberdeen Forward assists the Council to deliver the Single Outcome Agreement requirements “We reduce the local and global environmental impact of our consumption and production” and “we value and enjoy our built and natural environment and protect it and enhance it for future generations”.

## 7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Aberdeen Forward's INCREASE III Funding Application

## 9. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

Andrew Win  
Senior Sustainable Development Officer  
[andrewwin@aberdeencity.gov.uk](mailto:andrewwin@aberdeencity.gov.uk)  
01224 523378