

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE: **Education, Culture and Sport**
DATE: **23rd February 2012**
DIRECTOR: **Annette Bruton**
TITLE OF REPORT: **Sports Grants**
REPORT NUMBER: **ECS/12/003**

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report brings before the Committee the recommendations for financial assistance from the sports grants to sports groups, organisations and community clubs.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the committee approves:

- (i) The allocation of sports grants to the total value of £36,977.50 as presented in Appendix 1.
- (ii) To allocate the under spend within the sports grants budget (£4,567.50) to support 2012/2014 games legacy activity in schools and the local community.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

A total of £41,545 is remaining within the 2011/12 budget to support the Sports Grants programme. Applicants were invited to be considered for grants of up to 50% of the costs of their projects, showing either match funding or an in-kind contribution.

Eighteen applications have been received, requesting funds of £87,452. At this time it is recommended to allocate sports grants to the value of £36,977.50 leaving a total of £4,567.50 remaining for this financial year.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

Local sports groups and organisations adopt a variety of methods to attract funding, however some groups would be unable to host an event or develop further without the financial assistance available from the City Council. Groups who do not meet the criteria will be assisted by officers to source alternative solutions.

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

The Financial Assistance budget for 2011/12 has been set by the Council at £103,448. Sports Grants application forms and guidelines are available on the Aberdeen City Council website. These documents are also available in hard copy upon request.

The grant criteria is directly linked to the five key objectives of "Fit for the Future" the Sport and Physical Activity Strategy for Aberdeen (2009-2015). Applications are assessed against the criteria and recommendations made for Committee approval.

6. IMPACT

The report relates to the Arts, Heritage and Sport strand of the Community Plan, specifically in relation to the Sports, Leisure and Recreation vision of developing Aberdeen as an "Active City".

The report also links to Vibrant, Dynamic and Forward Looking through Culture, Arts and Sport:

- Increase participation in sport, provide support for athletes and reward excellence
- Recognise the contribution of Sport, Culture and Arts to promoting the area as a tourist destination
- Recognise the role of Sport and Arts in tackling anti-social behaviour

Furthermore the report relates closely to the objectives of "Fit for the Future, the sport and physical activity strategy for Aberdeen City (2009-2015)". These objectives are:

- Promote and increase opportunities for participation in sport and physical activity for everyone in Aberdeen.
- Provide a comprehensive and high quality range of sports facilities in Aberdeen.
- Maximise social, educational, health and economic benefits of sport and physical activity in Aberdeen.
- Develop and sustain pathways which nurture local, regional and national sporting people to reach their potential.
- Raise the profile of sport in Aberdeen.

7. REPORT

7.1 Grants to Sport Organisations

A table is attached in appendix one which presents all the applications and the recommendations of the sports grants selection panel for funding. The criteria for which the selection panel made the attached recommendations for the dispersal of funds included:

- Links to Single Outcome Agreement
- Links to 'Fit for the Future' – The Sports Strategy for Aberdeen
- 50% match funding (in kind or financial contribution)
- Evidence of beneficial partnership working

Due to the volume of applications which were received we have been unable to include a synopsis of each of the projects in this report. All applications are however available in the members library.

7.2 Deferred Applications

For the majority of the application received recommendations have been put forward in this report. There are however three applications which have been deferred as the information within these particular applications is insufficient. There is a requirement to speak to the organisations in more detail prior to a recommendation for funding support being made to committee.

7.3 Games Legacy Funding

This decade will see Scotland and the United Kingdom host an unprecedented number of global sports events, including the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games, the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games, and the 2014 Ryder Cup. Working with partners, Aberdeen City Council aims to realise the potential of these events to accelerate progress towards a more active and healthy city. It is therefore proposed to allocate the under spend of the sports grant to specific organisations and groups. This is in an effort to inspire greater participation in sport and physical activity within the city whilst delivering on key legacy ambitions as set out in *A Games Legacy for Scotland* document. The same criteria will be used for this funding as it currently used for the sports grants. Should the recommendation be approved an information bulletin will be presented to committee in June providing an update on how these funds have been spent.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

9. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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Appendix 1 – Sports Grants Recommendations (February 2012)

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Grant Requested</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>
Aberdeen Amateur Swimming Club	Establishment of a new Water Polo Section	£1,200	£600
Aberdeen FC Ladies	Club Development	£10,000	£5,770
Aberdeen Grammar School	Shinty Programme with Harlaw Academy	£2,500	£500
Aberdeen Rugby League Club	Aberdeen Rugby League 2012 Development Project	£5,000	£0 (DEFERRED)
Aberdeen Schools Rowing Association	Schools Rowing Participation	£10,000	£5,000
Aberdeen Squash and Racketball Club	Racketball in the community	£1,250	£937.50
Auchmill Golf Club	Golf Buggies for disabled golfers	£7,500	£0 (DEFERRED)
Bridge of Don Amateur Swimming Club	Training Weekend	£1,500	£0
Cults Otters Amateur Swimming Club	Junior Swim Fit: Mini Water Polo & Life saving skills	£2,000	£1,000
Dee Boys Club	Multi Sports Centre (Stage 1)	£5,000	£0
Glentanar Boys Club	2012 Coach Training	£1,462	£625

North East of Scotland Athletics Partnership	Athletics Equipment for North East of Scotland	£2,500	£0 (DEFERRED)
North Region Girls Football League	Aberdeen City primary girls football development project	£2,640	£2,570
Scottishathletics	Hosting the Celtic Games in Aberdeen	£10,000	£10,000
RGU: Sport	Volunteer for Sport programme	£7,550	£5,550
Seaton Backies Project	Seaton Backies Natural Play Space Project	£5,500	£0
Silver City Blues Amateur Swimming Club	Adult Swimschool for Cults Community Group	£10,000	£3,500
St Machar Academy	School of Football	£1,850	£925

Other Recommendations

Games Legacy project funding	£4,567.50
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Totals

Total Grants Requested (Feb '12)	£87,452
Total Grant Recommendation	£36,977.50
Remaining Budget	£0

Appendix 2 - Summary Table of Financial Assistance (to date) Sports Awards 2011/12

Sports Organisation	Funding Awarded	Committee Approval
Aberdeen Disability Sport	£600	Education, Culture & Sport 02/06/11
City of Aberdeen Gymnastics	£2,570	Education, Culture & Sport 02/06/11
North East of Scotland Lawn Tennis Association	£2,000	Education, Culture & Sport 02/06/11
Aberdeen Youth Rugby Association	£13,000	Education, Culture & Sport 02/06/11
Scottish Schools Competition (Gymnastics)	£1,250	Education, Culture & Sport 02/06/11
Aberdeen Sports Council	£7,000	Education, Culture & Sport 02/06/11
The Royal Caledonian Curling Club	£5,250	Education, Culture & Sport 02/06/11
Scottish Ballet	£8,453	Education, Culture & Sport 02/06/11
Aberdeen Secondary Schools Football Association	£1,500	Education, Culture & Sport 15/09/11
Active Schools – Young Ambassadors	£720	Education, Culture & Sport 15/09/11
Aberdeen Amateur Athletics Club	£4,000	Education, Culture & Sport 24/11/11
Aberdeen Schools Shinty Club	£560	Education, Culture & Sport 24/11/11

London 2012 Pre-Games Training Camp – Cameroon	£15,000	Education, Culture & Sport 24/11/11
Total Grant Funding Awarded to date	£61,903	
Grant Funding Remaining	£41,545	