

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

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| COMMITTEE | Finance and Resources |
| DATE | 11 March 2010 |
| REPORT BY | City Chamberlain |
| TITLE OF REPORT | Applications for Financial Assistance 2009/10 |
| REPORT NUMBER | CG/10/50 |

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to consider an application for financial assistance which has recently been received.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended that the Committee considers and approves grants of : -

- a) £900 for the Young Carers event on 26 May 2010 at the Music Hall;
- b) £800 for the Bon Accord Gathering on 27- 29 August at the Beach Ballroom and
- c) £400 for the Bon Accord Bowling Association – Meff Spence Trophy Transport.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Prior to considering the request for support there is an uncommitted budget remaining of £8,779 for ad-hoc grants in 2009/10. Approval of this request can be met from the uncommitted budget remaining.

4. SERVICE & COMMUNITY IMPACT

The City Council will within financial constraints seek to support the voluntary sector and partnerships with the local community. All applicants will be given equal consideration within the general criteria for the disbursement of grants and donations from this budget

5. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

If the proposed assistance is not provided it may raise issues on the sustainability of organisations or their ability to hold specific events which will bring benefits to the City of Aberdeen.

6. REPORT

Main Considerations

6.1 In considering miscellaneous applications for grants or donations the following general criteria are applied -

a) applications from individuals seeking sponsorship, for taking part in fund-raising events abroad or for placements with charitable organisations or trusts in developing countries, are declined.

b) applications from individuals or groups seeking assistance towards costs of excursions outwith the City are declined.

c) applications which tend not to be supported are those from national organisations unless there was some clear and measurable local benefit, and health related applications which are seen as the clear responsibility of the health authorities.

d) on a number of occasions assistance is provided to both local and national organisations, either in whole or in part, with the costs of hiring accommodation such as the Beach Ballroom, and the Music Hall for various fund-raising events and gatherings.

Application

6.2 **VSA (copy letter attached)**

A request has been received from VSA for financial assistance in order to enable them to stage a Young Carers and Acclamations event at the Music Hall on Wednesday 26th May 2010. The total costs for the event are estimated at £6,345 which includes the let of the Music Hall at a cost of £900 (the non commercial rate). No specific sum has been requested by VSA and it is recommended if the Committee wish to support this application then the value of the let, of the Music Hall, of £900 be awarded.

The Financial Assistance Budget has not previously funded a VSA Young Carers and Acclamations event however other VSA events have been funded from this budget (2008/09 Aberdeen Volunteer Co-ordinators forum £400).

6.3 2010 Annual Bon Accord Gathering- Alcoholics Anonymous (copy letter attached)

A request has been received from the secretary of the Bon Accord Gathering for assistance in the let of the Beach Ballroom during this year's annual gathering to be held in August 2010. The cost of hiring the Beach ballroom for the event is approximately £2,000.

This is a social event which allows recovering alcoholics and their families to share their experiences.

The Council has in the past supported this request. The organisations main source of income arises from their own fundraising efforts. Without the Council's support towards the hire costs of the Beach Ballroom these would be depleted.

A sum of £800 has previously been provided by the Council to support this event and it is recommended the same sum be approved again.

6.4 Bon Accord Bowling Association – Meff Spence Trophy (copy letter attached)


A request has been received from Bon Accord Bowling Association outlining the continuation of the annual competition for the Meff Spence Trophy and requesting that assistance be given to defray the cost of transport to Dundee.


Whilst the criteria for financial assistance of this nature do not normally obtain approval there is a history of support being provided by the Council for this event which alternates between Aberdeen and Dundee for its location. In 2008 there was £445 approved from this budget towards the cost of transport.

The Association has sought information on the price of transport which shows the lowest price to hire a bus for the event is £400.

7. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Attached letters