

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Finance and Resources
DATE	11 May 2010
REPORT BY	City Chamberlain
TITLE OF REPORT	Applications for Financial Assistance 2010/11
REPORT NUMBER	CG/10/090

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to consider the Annual Partner Organisations, Membership and Affiliation Fees and grants for 2010/11.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended that the Committee considers and approves the grants and donations listed in section 6.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The annual budget of £54,000 supports Partner Organisations, Membership and Affiliation Fees and Recurring grants. If the detailed proposals of £42,452 are approved there would be an uncommitted balance remaining of £11,548 for future requests for assistance in 2010/11.

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 for various fund-raising events and gatherings.

6.2 RECURRING APPLICATIONS

a) Partner Organisations

To date a number of applications have been received for financial assistance from various partner organisations. The partner organisations which fall under the remit of this Committee are set out below with information provided in respect to funding approved in 2009/10, funding requested for 2010/11 and the proposed level of funding for 2010/11.

Partner Organisation	Grant Approved 2009/10	Funding Requested 2010/11	Proposed Level of Funding 2010/11
Scottish Civic Trust	£700	£700	£700

b) Membership/Affiliation Fees

In addition to meeting various annual applications for grants and donations the grants' budget also meets the membership/affiliation fees of recognised bodies to which the Council gives support or is a member. Fees for 2010/11, totalling £30,652 are as follows:-

	Grant Approved	Proposed Level of Funding
	2009/10	2010/11
	£	£
Planning Exchange – ISLA Service	21,563	22,103
Commonwealth Local Government Forum	835	860
Scottish Local Government Forum against Poverty	2,190	2,100
The Poverty Alliance	200	200
Centre for Scottish Public Policy	250	250
Chamber of Commerce	2,000	2,377
Scottish Churches Industrial Mission	1,000	1,000
Stonewall	<u>1,762</u>	<u>1,762</u>
	29,800	30,652

c) Scout Groups-Rental Grants

Support has previously been given by granting the equivalent to 75% of the annual rental payment for the ground lease to a small number of scout groups, amounting to £7,253, which have leased ground from the Council.

The scout groups supported are:-

The 27 th Scout Group (Rosehill) ; 35th Scout Group (Greenfern) ; 46th Scout Group (Bridge of Don); 53rd Scout Group (Craigiebuckler); 55th Scout Group (Kincorth Circle) 1st Dyce.

d) Voluntary Groups-Rental Grants

One local Group based in a council property, Middlefield Community Flat, have previously been awarded financial assistance towards their rental costs. Although the property is suitable, the project can afford to pay the required commercial rent which is in the region of £3,400 per annum.

This group has previously been awarded £575, which is the difference between a commercial and non-commercial rent.

Financial assistance for the rental of Cummings Park Community Flat was approved during the 2006/2007 budget process and a provision of £2,772 was made.


e) Other Bodies – Rental Grant

An annual donation is made to the Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service. There are three blood donor sessions annually and the financial assistance of £500 is to help towards the rental of premises.

7. REPORT AUTHOR

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8. BACKGROUND PAPERS