

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE:	Education, Culture and Sport
DATE:	16th September 2010
DIRECTOR:	Annette Bruton
TITLE OF REPORT:	Sports Grants
REPORT NUMBER:	ECS/10/070

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report brings before the Committee applications for financial assistance from sports organisations and makes a recommendation for each application. There have been six funding applications received.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the Committee considers the applications and approves the recommendations:

2.1	Aberdeen Secondary Schools Football Association	£1500
2.2	The Chris Anderson Trust	£2500
2.3	Grampian Coaching	£5000
2.4	Aberdeen Sports Council	£7000
2.5	Aberdeen Disability Sport	£582.50
2.6	Young Sports Ambassadors	£175

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Financial Assistance sports budget for the year 2010/11 is £69,000. Assuming that the recommendations are approved there will be £32,164.50 funding available for the remainder of the financial year.

4. SERVICE & COMMUNITY 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

5. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

The 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 from this grant. Groups who do not meet the criteria will be assisted by officers to source alternative solutions.

6. REPORT

The Financial Assistance budget for 2010/11 has been set by the Council at £69,000. A copy of the guideline notes for sports organisations is included in the City Council Funding Pack sent to potential applicants. In addition a copy of the new sports grants criteria approved at the Education, Culture and Sport Committee on the 8th of October 2009 is provided outlining the assessment process.

The new criteria are directly linked to the five key objectives of Fit for the Future, the Sport and Physical Activity Strategy for Aberdeen. Applicants are assessed against the criteria and recommendations made for Committee approval.

Aberdeen Secondary Schools Football Association

Aberdeen Secondary Schools Football Association (ASSFA) is an association with an objective of providing organised football for pupils attending Academies within Aberdeen City. Membership of the association is open to all Secondary Schools in the City and currently 18 schools are affiliated.

The purpose of this funding request is to enable the ASSFA to continue to organise competitions for all pupils who attend affiliated schools. Overall it is projected that over 1110 pupils made up of both boys and girls would take part in the inter-school competitions ranging from Under 13 through to senior level. These tournaments are played after-school and on Saturday mornings with many volunteers including teachers responsible for organising and officiating. Additionally, the grant requested would also allow teams from Aberdeen to continue to represent the City nationally at Girl's Under 15 and Boy's Under 15 and senior level. The grant requested would be used on various items of expenditure including travel, administration, equipment and the secretary's honorarium.

Funding Requested	Funding Recommended
£3000	£1500

The Chris Anderson Trust

This request is for an annual grant in support of the Chris Anderson Trust. The Chris Anderson Trust supports young people, both boys and girls, in the North East under the age of 18 years to develop their sporting talent by awarding grants to assist training, travel and participation in competitions. The trust provides the opportunity for Schools of Excellence to be held in a number of sports and also supports grass root participation through the provision of skills schools.

Funding Requested	Funding Recommended
£2500	£2500

Grampian Coaching

Grampian Coaching is the collaboration between the Sports Development Departments and Sports Council's of Aberdeenshire, Aberdeen City and Moray together with the Coaching Network of sportscotland. Other partners are Active Schools, Youth Scotland, Grampian Institute of Sport and Volunteer Scotland.

The main objectives for Grampian Coaching are:

- Increase the quantity and quality of coaches in the Grampian region - strengthening the infrastructure of focus sport & active schools.
- "Sustaining volunteers who are contributing to the development and delivery of Grampian sport." - by marketing and promoting a coach/volunteer education programme across the region which will lead to improving the experience & performance of children and young people participating in sport.

Grampian Coaching's Education Programme offers courses for all involved in physical activities where:

- Experienced coaches can improve their coaching qualifications
- Interested volunteers who would like to work with the youth section of their sports club can find the appropriate level of qualification to begin working with youngsters.
- Those who are simply 'helping out' in a youth group, after school club or community centre can find the right course to encourage physical activity amongst those they care for.

This request is in support of continuing Partnership funding for Grampian Coaching. Three local authorities, Aberdeen, Aberdeenshire, Moray and the national agency sportscotland contribute funding to the project. The funding allows for the employment of a Regional Coaching Development Manager who is

responsible for the co-ordination and implementation of the action plans for coach education and development

Funding Requested	Funding Recommended
£5000	£5000

Aberdeen Sports Council

This request is for an annual programme grant to support the work of the Aberdeen Sports Council. The Aberdeen Sports Council provides essential support, both advisory and financial to the member sports clubs in the city. They also provide grant funding to both individual athletes and coaches within a variety of sports.

The Sports Councils main objectives include:-

- To promote interest and participation in Sport and Recreation among Sportsmen, Women and Children within the City of Aberdeen.
- To assist in co-coordinating the activities of the various Sports and Recreational Organisations within the City of Aberdeen
- To assist with the formation of Sports Clubs and Recreational Organisations where none exist, or where existing clubs need help.
- To award grants to Sportsmen, Women and Children within the City of Aberdeen and help them in their pursuit of excellence!

Funding Requested	Funding Recommended
£7000	£7000

Aberdeen Disability Sport

This grant would allow Aberdeen Disability Sport to offer bowling sessions throughout the season for bowlers in Aberdeen with disabilities. Beyond general participation it will also allow bowlers from the city to participate in the Scottish Disability Sport National Lawn Bowl Championships which is to take place at Westburn Outdoor Centre.

Aberdeen Disability Sport is the local voluntary branch of Scottish Disability Sport. The organisation provides opportunities for people to progress in their chosen sport and access quality training and competition. They also work with local sports clubs to promote sport and leisure activities and improve access for those with disabilities.

The recommendation for funding is only half of the funding requested as the grant requested represents the full cost of the activity. The sports grant criteria outlines that a maximum of 50% of identified costs can be awarded.

Funding Requested	Funding Recommended
£1165	£585.50

Young Sports Ambassadors

The Young Ambassador programme is a volunteer led initiative which works with young people aged 14-19. Young volunteers are trained as ambassadors and develop skills which allow them to promote the importance of sport and physical activity amongst other young people in Aberdeen. The role of ambassadors is embedded within schools and communities and involves increasing participation, promoting active and health lifestyles and spreading the word of the Olympic and Paralympic values.

This funding request relates to providing the opportunity for Aberdeen's Young Ambassadors to attend the Young Ambassador National Conference taking place in Ratho near Edinburgh. This conference is an integral part of the programme and this year, a team of Olympic and Paralympic athletes will attend to support the Young Ambassadors in further developing their leadership skills and thus becoming more effective locally.

The recommendation for funding is only half of the funding requested as the grant requested represents the full cost of the activity. The sports grant criteria outlines that a maximum of 50% of identified costs can be awarded.

Funding Requested	Funding Recommended
£350	£175

7. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Appendix 1

Summary Table of Financial Assistance Sports Awards 2010/11

Sports Organisation	Funding Awarded	Committee Approval
Netball Scotland	£678	Education, Culture & Sport 15/04/10
North East Tennis Group	£2000	Education, Culture & Sport 15/04/10
City of Aberdeen Gymnastics	£3400	Education, Culture & Sport 27/05/10
Aberdeen Churches League	£500	Education, Culture & Sport 27/05/10
Scottish Schools Gymnastics	£1000	Education, Culture & Sport 27/05/10
Aberdeen Youth Rugby Association	£10,000	Education, Culture & Sport 27/05/10
Grampian Institute of Sport	£2000	Education, Culture & Sport 27/05/10
Aberdeenshire Ladies County Golf Association	£500	Education, Culture & Sport 27/05/10
Total Grant Funding Awarded to date	£20,078	
Grant Funding Remaining	£48,922	