

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

REPORT

To: BELLSHILL AND DISTRICT AREA COMMITTEE		Subject: EXTERNAL FUNDING SOURCES FOR COMMUNITY GROUPS
From: DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES		
Date: 7 June 2000	Ref: BP/MF	

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Following an input to the last Area Committee on 23 May 2000 on the subject of social inclusion a discussion ensued relating to external funding sources for community/voluntary groups. It has long been acknowledged that for a variety of reasons community and voluntary organisations within North Lanarkshire have not accessed an equitable share of the levels of grant funding which are available at local, national and European levels.

2. INFORMATION ON FUNDING AVAILABILITY

- 2.1 There are a number of funds, grants and donations available to assist with community activity and voluntary projects beyond the better known and publicised packages such as National Lottery funding. Information on these funding sources is not widely publicised but is available via a software package that is readily available across North Lanarkshire, including within the Bellshill and District area.
- 2.2 The software package is known as 'Funder Finder' and is available and appropriate to all community and voluntary groups in North Lanarkshire. The Funder Finder package is available in at least five locations across the Council area as follows:

Voluntary Organisations

Monklands Association of Voluntary Services
3 Mavisbank Street
Airdrie

Community and Voluntary Organisation Council
241 Brandon Street
Motherwell

Bellshill YMCA
294 Main Street
Bellshill

North Lanarkshire Council

Community Services
Community Work Team
Kirkshaws Neighbourhood Centre
25 Haddington Way
Coatbridge
ML5 5BF

Community Education
Youth Enquiry Service
Our Lady's High School
Dalzell Drive
Motherwell
ML1

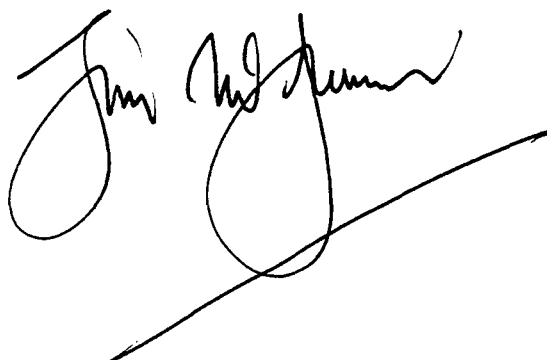
- 2.3 A small donation or administration fee may be charged by the voluntary organisations for use of the Funder Finder package.
- 2.4 Funder Finder software is available to purchase by any community and voluntary organisation at a cost of approximately £300 with updates at regular intervals available at a cost of £50.00 per disk.

3. CONCLUSION

- 3.1 Previous research on the Funder Finder package has shown its capacity for assisting groups to access considerable sums of funding if utilised appropriately and the package should be promoted amongst community groups and organisations in the Bellshill and District area by the Area Committee and in partnership with the recently re-established Community Forum to maximise the level of grant funding available within the area.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 It is recommended that the committee note the existence of the "Funder Finder" software package and promote the use amongst voluntary and community groups.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim McGovern", is written over a long, thin horizontal line that extends across the page.