

AGENDA ITEM No...7.....

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL
REPORT

To: LEISURE SERVICES COMMITTEE		Subject: GRANTS TO NATIONAL ARTS ORGANISATIONS 1999 / 2000
From: HEAD OF SPORT & RECREATION		
Date: 15 FEBRUARY 1999	Ref: BD/AA	

1. **Introduction**

This report provides details of scheme for awarding grants to National Arts Organisations.

2. **Background**

For a number of years COSLA has operated a scheme whereby recommendations are made to councils on financial assistance to national performing arts organisations.

North Lanarkshire has paid the rate agreed for 1996/97 for the past three years That is:

Scottish Opera	£10,018.85
Scottish Ballet	£ 2,359.04
Royal Scottish National Orchestra	£16,439.00
Scottish Chamber Orchestra	£ 631.14
Scottish Ensemble	£ 289.10

3. **Purpose of Funding**

Funding is provided in recognition of the national role of these organisations and the direct benefit they provide to North Lanarkshire residents.

4. **Work In North Lanarkshire 1998/99**

As part of the funding package in 1998/99 each organisation provided outreach work within North Lanarkshire. This included small scale tours, work with community groups, visits to Senior Citizen's Centres, workshops, concerts at reduced fees.

5. **Funding 1999/2000**

It is proposed that funding for 1999/2000 should be at the same level as 1998/99 (see above).

6. Pre-Spend Policy

As part of the budget savings exercise for 1999/2000, the department is required to pre-spend a proportion of its budget. It is therefore proposed that the £31,302.92 for National Arts Organisations should be part of this pre-spend exercise.

7. Recommendations

It is recommended that:

- 1 North Lanarkshire Council's contributions to the National Performing Arts Organisations for 1999/2000 should be the same as for 1998/99 (see above).
- 2 this should be forwarded to the organisations during March 1999, as part of the department's pre-spend policy.
- 3 grants should be awarded on the basis that the level of outreach work in North Lanarkshire from each organisation in 1999/2000 should be at the same level, or higher than in 1998/99.
- 4 each organisation should meet with Leisure Services officers at an early date to agree the outreach work programme.

