

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

REPORT

To: PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE		Subject: ANNUAL GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS 2007/08
From: DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT		
Date: 28 th March 2007	Ref: DR/	

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 The purpose of the report is to seek the approval of the Planning & Environment Committee for the payment of Annual Community Grant Awards to seven voluntary and community organisations including the Citizens Advice Bureaux (CABx), Cumbernauld & Kilsyth Unemployed Workers Centre and Routes to Work.

2. Background

2.1 North Lanarkshire Council supports a range of voluntary and community organisations through an annual grant scheme. The Planning & Environment Department has responsibility for administration of grants to 7 organisations that received funding totalling £386,591 in 2006/07.

2.2 Organisations seeking grants are required to complete a corporate application form setting out their objectives, details of service provided and proposed expenditure. It is not always possible within the department's budgetary resources to meet the aspirations of the applicants.

3. Considerations

3.1 Details of the amounts of annual grants proposed to be awarded to the five Citizens Advice Bureaux (CABx) and two other community organisations are given in appendix 1 of this report.

3.2 The total recommended funding level for 2007/08 is £398,189. This amount includes provision for a 3% inflationary uplift that was agreed for voluntary sector grants by the Council at its budget meeting of 8th February 2007.

3.3 Service level agreements will be agreed where appropriate by the organisations and the Council, and officers of the Department will continue to monitor compliance.

3.4 The amounts shown for the CABx do not include funding for money advice awarded by the Scottish Executive for additional debt advice services following from the Debt Arrangement & Attachment (Scotland) Act.

4. Corporate Considerations

4.1 The recommendations in this report are consistent with policy. The Director of Finance has been consulted in the preparation of this report and there are no further personnel, legal or property implications.

5. Recommendation

5.1 It is recommended that the Committee:

- approve the funding recommendations as detailed in Appendix 1, and
- otherwise note the contents of this report.

C. Morgan

D **David M. Porch**
DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT

For further information please contact David Roderick, Trading Standards Manager
on 01236 616415

Appendix 1

Planning & Environment Department Projects Annual Grants 2006/2007

Organisation	Purpose of Grant	2006/07 Award £	Recommended Funding 2007/08 £
Airdrie Citizens Advice Bureau	Core funding for CAB activities including staffing, administration, property costs, membership fees and development costs.	91,450	94,194
Bellshill and District Citizens Advice Bureau	Core funding for CAB activities including staffing, administration, property costs, membership fees and development costs.	35,317	36,377
Coatbridge Citizens Advice Bureau	Core funding for CAB activities including staffing, administration, property costs, membership fees and development costs.	49,566	51,053
Cumbernauld and Kilsyth Citizens Advice Bureau	Core funding for CAB activities including staffing, administration, property costs, membership fees and development costs.	45,849	47,224
Motherwell and Wishaw Citizens Advice Bureau	Core funding for CAB activities including staffing, administration, property costs, membership fees and development costs.		
- Motherwell Bureau		48,327	49,777
- Wishaw Bureau		37,132	38,246
Cumbernauld and Kilsyth Unemployed Workers Centre	Core funding to provide information on all aspects of welfare benefits and act as representatives at industrial tribunals	39,012	40,182

Organisation	Purpose of Grant	2006/07 Award £	Recommended Funding 2007/08 £
Routes to Work Ltd	Contribution towards operating costs of North Lanarkshire wide partnership initiative to deliver employment and training opportunities to disadvantaged people	39,938	41,136
Sub Total		386,591	398,189