

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

REPORT

| | |
|---|--|
| To: Policy and Resources (Community Development) Sub Committee | Subject: Request for Financial Contribution to Rural Initiatives Scotland Scheme 1998 by the Rural Forum Scotland |
| From: Chief Executive | |
| Date: 12 November 1998 | Ref: CE012/003/015 |

1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of this report is to request the Policy and Resources (Community Development) Sub Committee to consider an application from Rural Forum Scotland for contributory funding of £500 towards the Rural Initiatives Scotland Scheme 1998/99.

2.0 BACKGROUND

2.1 The Rural Initiatives Scotland Scheme is operated by Rural Forum Scotland in partnership with Shell UK Ltd, the Scottish Office and a number of national voluntary bodies. The Scheme has been operational for eleven years and provides small grants to voluntary and community organisations in rural areas throughout Scotland. Grants are awarded for a variety of purposes designed to bring social, economic and environmental benefits to the rural area.

2.2 The Rural Initiatives Scotland Scheme is funded by a range of contributors. In 1997 the Scheme received the sum of £20,000 from both Shell UK and the Scottish Office together with total contributory funding of £8,498 from seven local authorities including North Lanarkshire. The total budget allocated in 1997 was £47,753 with an average grant award of £712.

2.3 The Scheme is administered by Rural Forum Scotland and funding applications are considered by a panel comprising representatives from Rural Forum Scotland and the Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations. The Scheme is widely publicised through local authorities, Councils for Voluntary Service, the press and media, and the contributory funding bodies are acknowledged on publicity materials.

3.0 NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL INVOLVEMENT

3.1 In 1997 North Lanarkshire Council awarded the sum of £500 to the Rural Initiatives Scotland Scheme. A supply of application forms was made available to the Council by Rural Forum and these were issued to community and voluntary organisations within those eligible North Lanarkshire rural areas and villages.

3.2 The Scheme received a total of seven applications from North Lanarkshire groups and from these the undernoted successful awards were granted:-

| | <u>Organisation</u> | <u>Purpose</u> | <u>Amount Awarded</u> |
|------|---|---|---------------------------|
| i) | Glenboig 2000 | assist in purchasing furnishings for Community House | £700 |
| ii) | Auchinloch Playgroup and Mothers and Toddlers | assist in purchasing large playhouse structure | £450 |
| iii) | Croy Cuddlies Parent and Toddler Group | assist in funding creche costs and purchasing equipment | £500 |

4.0 FUNDING REQUEST 1998/99

4.1 Rural Forum Scotland has applied to North Lanarkshire Council for a contribution of £500 in 1998/99 towards the Rural Initiatives Scotland Scheme. Rural Forum guarantees that any monies awarded by North Lanarkshire Council will be allocated to organisations in the North Lanarkshire area and indeed from Section 3 above it can be seen that the Scheme's capacity to lever in additional funds enhances the Council's contribution and benefits local organisations .

5.0 RECOMMENDATION

5.1 It is recommended that the Policy and Resources (Community Development) Sub Committee approve an award of £500 from the Chief Executive's Payments to Agencies and Other Bodies Budget 1998/99 to the Rural initiatives Scotland Scheme.


 J. Coads
 Chief Executive