

## NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

## REPORT

TO: Social Work Committee	Subject: <b>SECTION 10 FUNDING</b>
FROM: Director of Social Work	
DATE OF COMMITTEE: 21 November 2000	
REPORT AUTHOR: George McNally	
REF: JD/GMcI/DH	

**1 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To advise the Social Work Committee of an application for Section 10 funding which has been submitted by "Watch Us Grow".

**2 BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The Social Work Committee has powers through the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968, to make payments to community and voluntary organisations who are engaged in the promotion of social welfare.

**3 APPLICATION FROM WATCH US GROW**

- 3.1 Watch Us Grow is a community based voluntary organisation which was founded in 1999 for the purpose of providing training and work placement experience services for people with special needs. The organisation is located in Palacerigg Country Park and is engaged in horticulture and environmental planting
- 3.2 The Watch Us Grow project currently provides services to ten people with special needs, the organisations services include the development of work related skills, confidence building and helping those who attend the project to participate more fully in the wider community. The application for Section 10 funding will enable the project to expand their numbers from ten to twenty four people.
- 3.3 The work of Watch Us Grow has attracted support and financial contributions from a number of organisations including the National Lotteries Charity Board, Lloyds TSB, North Lanarkshire Forward and Scottish National Heritage.

**4 FUNDING REQUEST**

- 4.1 The Section 10 funding report is based on the Social Work Department paying an hourly rate of £1.60 for six people who will attend the project four days per week. On an annual basis the Social Work Department contribution would therefore equate to £11,059

## 5 EVALUATION OF THE PROJECT

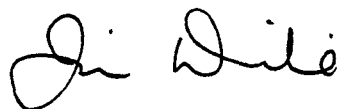
- 5.1 Having considered the funding request, the Social Work Department believes the services provided by Watch Us Grow can provide an opportunity for people with special needs to develop skills and experience which will assist with the social inclusion requirements of the individuals who attend the project.
- 5.2 The Department is therefore prepared to support the Section 10 application on the basis that it will be able to nominate individuals for placements on the programme. Those nominated to attend will be people whose care plans indicate that they are likely to benefit from a placement with Watch Us Grow. Persons nominated to participate in the Watch Us Grow project would also be drawn from the Aldarlee Day Centre, thereby creating additional space within this facility to provide services to those people on the waiting list.
- 5.3 The Department is mindful however, that there are a number of factors which could affect the longer term financial viability of the organisation, not least the organisations ability to raise in future years, the necessary revenue to sustain the ongoing operation. In the event that Watch Us Grow can not attract from external sources the necessary match funding. The Social Work Department can not give any guarantee that it will assume responsibility for the entire funding package.

## 6 CONCLUSION

- 6.1 The Watch Us Grow project is a useful addition to services for clients with special needs. The Social Work Department should take the opportunity of nominating people who would benefit from the services provided by the project.
- 6.2 The organisation have in place the necessary funding resources to see them through the next three years. Their expansion plans are however, dependent on the Section 10 grant. It would therefore be reasonable at this stage to award funding from December 2000 to March 2002 as there are resources currently available in the Section 10 budget to facilitate this arrangement.

## 7 RECOMMENDATION

- 7.1 Committee is requested to:-
- i) Approve the Section 10 application for funding of £14,745 for the period December 2000 to March 2002.
  - ii) To request the Director of Social Work to provide regular reports to the Convenor of Social Work on the progress achieved by the organisation.
  - iii) To otherwise note this report.



**Jim Dickie**  
**Director of Social Work**  
**9 November 2000**

*For further information on this report please contact , Principal Officer (Strategy) (TEL: 01698 332063)*