

To: SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE	Subject: SECTION 10 GRANTS	
From: DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WORK		
Date: 30 OCTOBER 2003	Ref: JD/GMcI/DH	

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT / INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to provide further information to committee regarding an application for Section 10 funding which was continued at Committee on the 28th August and consideration of new applications.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. The criteria applied to funding new applications have been previously endorsed by Committee and are detailed below:-

- **Performance/Quality, Value for Money:** consideration of quality services which represent good value for the Section 10 monies provided to the organisations concerned.
- **Direct Services:** recognising the need to support voluntary organisations who provide direct services to individuals and care groups which would otherwise require the Social Work Department to provide substitute services.
- **Provision of Local Services:** continued support to local organisations who provide worthwhile local services which benefit individuals and local communities.
- **Continuity:** providing ongoing support to organisations which are currently funded through Section 10.
- **Scope for Growth:** recognising the opportunities for creating new and meaningful provisions for the citizens of North Lanarkshire in the field of social welfare.
- **Overall Funds:** taking account of the total money which is available to the Social Work Department for Section 10 funding.

- 2.2. Aid to the Needy, a charitable organisation which operates a charity shop in Bellshill, applied for a Section 10 grant of £4,900 to provide assistance with the purchase of a vehicle and to meet its running costs. It was the view of the assessor that the application did not meet the criteria for Section 10 funding in that the aim of the charity shop was to raise funds for charitable activities abroad with the remaining funds being distributed to other local charities. Local residents only benefited directly through the work of the other charities or through purchasing low cost goods out of the charity shop. The Social Work Committee continued the application for further information at its August Committee.

- 2.3. Three new applications have been received from The Jack and Jill Support Group, Cash for Kids/ Clyde Action and Orbiston Neighbourhood Centre.

3. PROPOSALS / CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1. In relation to the continued application from "Aid to the Needy" the assessment carried out raised the issue of who are the main beneficiaries of the organisations activities. The aims of the organisation relate to supporting charitable causes overseas and the local community. The purpose of the charity shop is to enable the organisation to raise funds by selling goods in order to realise their aims. In the period since their formation and leading up to the assessment the organisation has donated £1,000 to an overseas charity and purchased football strips for local schools. They had also donated surplus clothing from their charity shop to the Salvation Army and local charitable organisations. While these acts are very worthy in their own right Committee should be aware that they are not the kinds of activity able to be funded directly or indirectly through Section 10 funds.
- 3.2. The officer carrying out the assessment discovered that the organisation had in fact purchased a vehicle utilising their own funds. Following the assessment visit a letter was sent to the organisation asking whether the organisation intended to amend or withdraw their application in light of this information. The organisation asked that their application proceed as the vehicle which they had purchased proved not to be suitable.
- 3.3. The application itself had a number of deficiencies in that there were no estimates for the proposed purchase of a vehicle (£2,500), or how they had assessed the level of funding that they required for this purpose. The organisation was also given advice on putting in place relevant policies e.g. equal opportunities. They were also advised of the name, telephone number and website of Shell Oil who provided grants for small furniture recycling projects. The organisation was also referred to Planning and Development for additional information on external funding sources.
- 3.4. The Jack and Jill Support Group for children with special needs currently receives a Section 10 Grant of £3,500. The group, which bases its activities in the Orbiston Neighbourhood Centre in Busby Road, Bellshill, has previously made a donation to the centre for the accommodation and storage used. They are now being asked to pay a formal rent for the use of the premises. The organisation will require additional funding to meet the rent requested which is £887.50. This figure is based on a rental rate of £6 per hour. As they already have an amount of £200 set aside for this purpose they would require their grant to be increased by £667.
- 3.5. The Cash for Kids / Clyde Action programme which is run by CSV Scotland has made an appeal to Social Work to increase the level of funding provided by the Council to support their running costs. The organisation applied for £13,750 for this financial year. The application was handled by Community Services who awarded the organisation £3,000. In previous years they had received £5,000. After Glasgow North Lanarkshire is the largest authority to benefit with over £78,000 in grants awarded. Out of this figure £46,975 was targeted at Social Work referrals. It seems appropriate from the information provided that a joint funding approach involving Social Work and Community Services should be considered.
- 3.6 The Orbiston Neighbourhood Centre provides a range of services, one of which offers day centre provision for the elderly. The work of the Centre is funded from a range of sources, the main two being Social Work and SIP Funding. The organisation has identified that it incurred a deficit in the Day Centre for the year to 31 March 2003 of £9,200 and will incur a deficit of £13,200 in the current year unless the Social Work Department increases its contribution from the current level of £54,768. The major reason for the deficits is the reduction in SIP Funding allocated to the project. A full review of the day care services is being undertaken at present which will inform the future shape of services to be provided but as an interim measure it is proposed the organisation be provided with a Section 10 Grant of £22,400 to cover the deficits identified above.

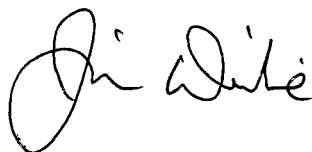
4. FINANCIAL / PERSONNEL / LEGAL / POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The Section 10 budget has a remaining balance of £86,096 uncommitted. Should the committee agree to fund the recommendations as set out in Appendix 1 to a value of £30,087 (Clyde Action £7,000 and Jack and Jill Support Group £687, and Orbiston Neighbourhood Centre £22,400) this will leave a balance of £56,009.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1. Committee is requested to:

- (i) Agree to the recommendations for the provision of Section 10 funding for Jack and Jill Support Group, Cash for Kids / Clyde Action and Orbiston Neighbourhood Centre as outlined in appendix 1;
- (ii) Agree to the recommendation to refuse the application for funding from the organisation "Aid to the Needy".



Jim Dickie
Director of Social Work
12 September 2003

*For further information on this report please contact Gus Ferguson, Service Co-ordinator Strategy
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SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON CURRENT APPLICATIONS

Project	Purpose of Grant Requested	Assessment and Recommendation
Jack and Jill Support Group – Catering for children with special needs	(£687) – To meet additional running costs of project in relation to rent of premises for activities and equipment storage.	The organisation provides a valuable service to families and children with special needs. <i>It is recommended that the group be awarded an additional grant of £687.</i>
Cash for Kids / Clyde Action	(£10,750) – To contribute to the overall running costs of the Clyde Action / Cash for Kids appeal and associated work.	It is evident that service users and groups in contact with the Department benefit from this annual small grants programme. <i>It is recommended that the group be awarded a grant of £7,000 and that discussions take place with Community Service regarding future joint funding.</i>
Orbiston Neighbourhood Centre - provides a range of community based services, one of which offers day centre provision for the elderly.	(£22,400) – To meet a current deficit in funding	A full review of day care services is being undertaken at present which will inform the future shape of services to be provided but as an interim measure. <i>it is recommended the organisation be provided with a Section 10 Grant of £22,400 .</i>
Aid to the Needy – charitable organisation in Bellshill providing recycling of clothing, furniture and white goods.	(£4,900) – To provide locally the opportunity of purchasing low cost clothing furniture and white goods and to fund local community groups, projects and to continue to fund some overseas projects.	Following further examination of the groups application it is still considered to fall outwith the criteria for Section 10 Funding as agreed by Committee. <i>It is recommended that this application be refused.</i>