

REPORT TO: PERSONNEL AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE - 21 APRIL 2003

REPORT ON: NEIGHBOURHOOD RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT - BUILDING COMMUNITY CAPACITY - ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES 2003-2006

REPORT BY: ACTING DIRECTOR OF NEIGHBOURHOOD RESOURCES & DEVELOPMENT AND DIRECTOR OF PERSONNEL AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES

REPORT NO: 279-2003

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The Committee is asked to note the extension of the Building Community Capacity Project funded through Social Inclusion Partnership and European Regional Development Fund monies, for the period April 2003 - December 2006.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee:

- 2.1 notes the allocation of additional extension funding for Building Community Capacity as set out in para 3.1 below;
- 2.2 approves the extension of posts 981 and 982 (FTE Community Capacity Project Worker) to December 2005;
- 2.3 approves the continuation of the remainder of the staffing costs/budget to be used for sessional posts to undertake pieces of project work throughout the duration of the funding.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The costs can be contained within the allocation of funding received from the Social Inclusion Programme and European Regional Development Fund. This will consist of Objective 2 ERDF Revenue Grant of £116,621 which has been approved by the Eastern Scotland Programme Management Committee and matched funding of £179,106 from within the SIP Partnership Fund, which was previously approved at Committee (Report No 862-2002).

4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 This project will seek to support initiatives to ensure that all sections of the community are given opportunities to develop their capacity and empowered to partake in civic and community life.
- 4.2 The report seeks to ensure that the resources are used as efficiently as possible to achieve departmental and Council service priorities and to ensure a sustainable partnership approach to community capacity building.

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The proposals will continue to reflect the priorities and commitment of the Council to equal opportunities.

6.0 BACKGROUND

6.1 In September 2002 the Building Community Capacity Project was subject to external evaluation. This evaluation found the following:-

- the project performed well in meeting the ERDF/SIPS targets;
- feedback from the project participants recorded a positive impact on group development and capacity building;
- the project had a well established recording and evaluation framework.

This evaluation was used as the basis to apply for the extensions to SIPS and ERDF funding, as referred to above.

6.2 The project will operate within the Social Inclusion Partnership areas and the full and transition designated Community Economic Development Objective 2 eligible areas

7.0 CONSULTATION

7.1 The Chief Executive, the Directors of Finance, Corporate Planning and Support Services have been consulted in the preparation of this report, which is based on recommendations made by the Boost Fund Management Group.

8 BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 other than any containing confidential or exempt information were relied on to any material extent in the preparation of this report.

Stewart Murdoch
Acting Director of Neighbourhood Resources and Development

8 April 2003

Jim Petrie
Director of Personnel and Management Services

8 April 2003