

REPORT TO: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE - 18TH APRIL 2005

REPORT ON: GRANTNET - FUNDING DATABASE

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

REPORT NO.: 254-2005

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform the Committee of the Launch of Grantnet, which is an online grant information system, which will be free to organisations in Dundee. The system can be accessed through Dundee City Council's website.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 This report is for information.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The cost of providing Grantnet is £3,600 per annum and is contained within the Economic Development Department's approved revenue budgets.

4 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Grantnet is a feature which supports the e-government agenda.

5 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no equal opportunities implications of relevance to this report.

6 REPORT

- 6.1 In pursuit of its external funding function of supporting organisations to bring external funding to Dundee, the City Council's Economic Development Department has been piloting a funding information system called Grantnet. The system is developed and maintained by a commercial company named Grantfinder Ltd. The system has completed its pilot phase and is now ready for release. The Council is asked to note that there will be a number of publicity and promotion releases related to this development.
- 6.2 Grantnet provides initial access to more than 4000 initiatives administered by a variety of funding providers including charitable trusts, corporate sponsors, lottery good causes, government departments and bodies, and funds from the European Union.
- 6.3 The initial access provides a user-friendly on-line search tool, which allows users to rapidly access both a listing and a brief statement on potential funds. It also offers a one-page summary of each fund that the enquirer requests further details on.
- 6.4 The database holds substantially more than a one-page summary of each fund and users may access this detail by direct contact with the Economic Development Department. For natural commercial reasons Grantfinder Ltd have asked the Council to limit access where an organisation may otherwise be expected to purchase their own copy of the database. However this is only likely to be large public sector organisations or their equivalents, in scale, in other sectors.
- 6.5 It is anticipated that the main users will be voluntary organisations ranging from small community groups to nationally recognised agencies with branches based in Dundee. Council departments are also expected to be regular users both in their own right and in support of organisations operating in their areas of interest.

7 CONSULTATIONS

- 7.1 The Chief Executive has been consulted in the preparation of this report.

8 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 8.1 None.

**DOUGLAS A A GRIMMOND
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DATE: 11TH APRIL 2005