

DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Leisure, Arts and Communities Committee - 1 July 2009

REPORT ON: Volunteer Centre Dundee Grant

REPORT BY: Director of Leisure and Communities

REPORT NO: 308-2009

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 The report seeks approval for the payment of the annual grant award to Volunteer Centre Dundee.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

2.1 It is recommended that the Committee approves the grant award of £10,005 to Volunteer Centre Dundee as in previous years.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The cost will be contained within the third party payments budget head of Leisure and Communities Department's 2009/10 Revenue Budget.

4.0 MAIN TEXT

4.1 Volunteer Centre Dundee provides a range of advice, support and development opportunities for people wishing to volunteer in Dundee and to organisations who wish to work with volunteers.

4.2 The Centre continues to meet a public need and the volunteers it recruits and supports are invaluable to both the voluntary sector and public sector organisations in the city. The benefits to the volunteers themselves continue to be monitored and recorded.

4.3 During 2008-2009, the Centre was involved in the preparation of a new Volunteering Strategy for the Dundee Partnership, which was launched in December 2008. It has begun a new phase of development of the promotion of volunteering amongst partnership agencies and of the growth of new volunteering opportunities in the city.

4.4 The Volunteer Centre, in the past year, has provided staff time to support key elements of the development of the Dundee Partnership Volunteering Strategy, specifically in relation to taking the lead in publishing, launching and promoting the strategy and in chairing and co-ordinating the activities of the Strategy Implementation group in pursuit of the objectives in the action plan.

4.5 For the coming year, 2009/10, it is proposed that the grant be awarded on the basis of staff time being provided to support Council departments in the implementation of the following key areas of the Strategy's action plan:

- Achievement of the Volunteer Friendly Award
- Introduction of the Volunteer Impact Assessment Toolkit
- Implementation of the Dundee Partnership Volunteering Strategy and the development of an appropriate action plan.

- 4.6 These nationally recognised standards will provide a framework for ensuring best practice in the management of volunteers and in evaluating the contribution made by volunteers in the achievement of SOA outcomes. The grant will be monitored with regards to the inputs delivered by the Volunteer Centre Dundee in relation to these outcomes and an overall assessment of resulting changes within Dundee City Council Departments.

5.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

This report has been screened for any policy implications in respect of Sustainability, Strategic Environmental Assessment, Anti-Poverty, Equality Impact Assessment and Risk Management. The Volunteer Centre has in place relevant policies for all of these and makes a positive contribution to the Community Plans priorities by providing volunteering opportunities which are relevant.

There are no major issues.

6.0 CONSULTATION

- 6.1 The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Support Services), Depute Chief Executive (Finance) and Head of Finance have been consulted on this report and are in agreement with its contents.

7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 7.1 None.

STEWART MURDOCH
DIRECTOR OF LEISURE AND COMMUNITIES
15 June 2009