

REPORT TO: POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE - 8 SEPTEMBER 2008

REPORT ON: FAIRER SCOTLAND FUND COMMUNITY REGENERATION FORUM ALLOCATION 2008-2010

REPORT BY: ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE (COMMUNITY PLANNING)

REPORT NO: 453-2008

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 This report confirms the Fairer Scotland Fund Community Regeneration Forum allocations for 2008-2010 and makes recommendations for grants

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee endorses the funding proposals contained in section 5 of this report.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 This report recommends grants from budgets of £150,000 which are allocated through each of the five community regeneration forums in Dundee totalling £750,000 in both 2008/9 and 2009/10. These budgets are contained within the Scottish Government's Fairer Scotland Fund allocation to the Dundee Partnership of £8.441m in 2008/9 and £8.286m in 2009/10.

3.2 Dundee City Council acts as the accountable body for the Fairer Scotland Fund on behalf of the Dundee Partnership. There are therefore, no direct financial implications for Dundee City Council arising from this report.

3.3 Grants of £248 are recommended in this report.

4. BACKGROUND

4.1 In December 2007 the Scottish Government announced the creation of a new fund aimed at tackling poverty and deprivation across Scotland. The Fairer Scotland Fund replaces a number of existing programmes and funding streams.

4.2 The Fund will total £145m per year for the next three years and will be part of the local government settlement. An allocation from the Fund will be made to each local authority area to enable Community Planning Partnerships (CPPs) to work together to tackle area-based and individual poverty; and to help more people access and sustain employment opportunities.

4.3 Dundee's allocation of the Fairer Scotland Fund is as follows:

2008/9 (£m)	2009/10 (£m)	2010/11* (£m)
8.441	8.286	8.131

* The allocation is ring-fenced for the first two years of the Spending Review period, in order to provide transparency and ensure that all Community Planning partners can play a part in driving strategic investment of these resources. However, it is envisaged that the ring-fence will be removed in 2010/11 as Single Outcome Agreements are concluded with Community Planning Partnerships.

- 4.4 The process by which the Dundee Partnership allocates funding to local projects through community regeneration forums was agreed by Policy and Resources Committee in December 2004 (Committee Report 743-2004). The same procedures will apply to the local allocation of the Fairer Scotland Fund.
- 4.5 Community regeneration forums will be invited to allocate funding of up to £50,000 on diversionary and preventative youth work, up to £50,000 on small grants and no less than £50,000 to physical improvements.
- 4.6 The decision-making process for allocating grants through the local community regeneration forums is set out below.

1. Members of community regeneration forums develop funding proposals through discussion with officers responsible for youth work and physical regeneration. Applications for small grants are sought from an extensive network of stakeholders and organisations. The application form and guidance notes give explicit directions regarding match to outcomes and clear, measurable outputs.
2. Proposals/applications are screened by the FSF Co-ordinator to ensure match to outcomes, strategic, fit, value for money and focus on community regeneration areas.
3. Once the local community regeneration forums finalise funding proposals these are submitted to the Building Stronger Communities Group of the Dundee Partnership for agreement.
4. Allocations are reported to Policy and Resources Committee of Dundee City Council as accountable body.
5. Offers of grant are made to projects.
6. Monitoring and evaluation is initiated.

5. FUNDING ALLOCATIONS AND PROPOSALS

- 5.1 The budget for each community regeneration forum is summarised below together with allocations proposed in this report:

	CRA1	CRA2	CRA3	CRA4	CRA5	Total
Total Devolved Allocation	£150,000	£150,000	£150,000	£150,000	£150,000	£750,000
Previously Allocated	£36,742	£39,061	£52,585	£19,173	£47,276	£194,837
Current Proposals	0	0	0	0	£248	£248
Still Available	£113,258	£110,939	£97,415	£130,827	£102,476	£554,915

- 5.2 The proposals detailed in Appendix A recommend the allocation of £248 from local budgets.
- 5.3 The Community Regeneration Areas are as follows:

- CRA1 Ardler/St Mary's/Kirkton
 CRA2 Menzieshill/Charleston/Lochee/Beechwood
 CRA3 Mill O Mains/Fintry/Whitfield
 CRA4 Stobswell/Hilltown/Fairmuir

6. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 This report has been screened for any policy implications in respect of Sustainability, Strategic Environmental Assessment, Anti-Poverty, Equality Impact Assessment and Risk Management.
- 6.2 There is a close relationship between the Council's Anti Poverty targets and the focus of the Fairer Scotland Programme. The revenue expenditure proposals contained within this report are intended to meet local needs. The proposals also seek to assist with implementation of the Dundee Partnership Regeneration Outcome Agreement, and as such the measures contained in this report will address numerous anti-poverty priorities.
- 6.3 The resources made available through the Fairer Scotland Fund for geographic neighbourhoods are targeted on those areas which fall within the most disadvantaged 15% of datazones in the 2004 Scottish Index for Multiple Deprivation. The funding made available is intended to have the effect of equalling opportunities.

7. CONSULTATION

- 7.1 Consultation has taken place with the Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Finance), Depute Chief Executive (Support Services), Head of Finance, and the Directors of relevant departments.
- 7.2 Partnership agencies, community representatives and voluntary sector representatives have also been consulted and involved in the assessment of applications, and the formation of recommendations contained in this report.

8. BACKGROUND REPORTS

- 8.1 Report to Policy and Resources Committee, March 2008, Report No 161-2008, Fairer Scotland Fund.

Chris Ward
Assistant Chief Executive (Community Planning)..... 08/09/2008

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

APPENDIX A

8 September 2008

Fairer Scotland Fund- Community Regeneration Forums

No.	Project Title/Applicant	Area	Project Description	Total Project Cost	Amount Requested	Grant Award
SE 009	50+ Elderly & Disabled Group	Mid Craigie / Linlathen / Douglas	To purchase two lockable storage cabinets	£442	£392	£248