

DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Leisure, Arts and Communities Committee - 13 June 2011

REPORT ON: Introduction of an Aspiring National Athlete Scholarship Scheme and National/International Events Hosting Grant to the SportDundee Grant Aid Scheme

REPORT BY: Director of Leisure and Communities

REPORT NO: 264-2011

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To obtain committee approval for the addition of two new categories to the existing SportDundee Grant Aid Scheme.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The committee is asked to agree that an Aspiring National Athlete Scholarship Scheme and a National / International Events Grant be included within the SportDundee Grant Aid Scheme and managed by the SportDundee Executive Committee.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The costs of introducing these new categories will be met from within the SportDundee Grant Aid scheme, and there are no additional financial implications for the Council.

4.0 MAIN TEXT

- 4.1 Following consultation with the SportDundee Executive, a request has been made to add two new categories to the SportDundee Grant Aid Scheme, in order to support sport in the City and encourage athletes operating below the level of the national squads.

4.2 Aspiring National Athlete Scholarship

The recommended addition of an Aspiring National Athlete Scholarship Scheme is aimed at athletes who have the potential to be selected to train or to compete for their home country, based on the National Governing Body selection criteria, within the next 12 months.

- 4.3 This is a group of athletes that have received no support from SportDundee previously, as financial support for individual athletes is currently only available for confirmed National Athletes.
- 4.4 This recommendation contributes to Aim 3.1.6 of the Dundee Sport & Physical Activity Strategy 2010 - 2015; 'Establish support mechanisms for identified athletes out with National Squads'
- 4.5 The proposed Aspiring National Athlete Scholarship Scheme will provide up to £800 per athlete per annum to support essential training and development such as accessing physiotherapy, strength and conditioning etc, which will be paid on submission of suitable receipts for pre-agreed expenses.

- 4.6 The number of athletes supported through the proposed Aspiring National Athlete Scholarship Scheme will be decided by the SportDundee Executive Committee through regular monitoring of Grant Aid levels.
- 4.7 National Events Hosting Grant
- The recommended addition of a National/International Events Hosting Grant is aimed at encouraging clubs and associations affiliated to SportDundee to host national/international events in Dundee which will not only benefit local sport but will boost the local economy by attracting people to the City.
- 4.8 This recommendation contributes to Aim 3.4.3 of the Dundee Sport & Physical Activity Strategy 2010 - 2015; 'Bid for Regional and National events with Governing Bodies and other National Agencies' and Aim 3.4.4; 'Promote Dundee to other countries, teams and agencies as a high quality-training venue for events such as the Commonwealth Games etc.'
- 4.9 The proposed National / International Events Grant will provide up to £1,000 per event which will be paid on submission of suitable receipts for pre-agreed expenses.
- 4.10 The number of events supported through the proposed National/International Events Grant will be decided by the SportDundee Executive Committee through regular monitoring of Grant Aid levels and the perceived benefit to the city of hosting each event.

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.

There are no major issues.

6.0 CONSULTATION

- 6.1 The SportDundee Executive Committee has been consulted on this report and is in agreement with its contents.
- 6.2 The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Support Services), Assistant Chief Executive and Director of Finance have been consulted on this report and are in agreement with its contents.

7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 7.1
- Aspiring National Athlete Scholarship Scheme Proposal
 - National / International Events Grant
 - SportDundee Grant Aid Scheme Criteria
 - Dundee Sport & Physical Activity Strategy 2010 - 2015

STEWART MURDOCH
DIRECTOR OF LEISURE AND COMMUNITIES

30 MAY 2011