

REPORT TO: POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE ON 26 JUNE 2002
SUBJECT: ARTS COUNCIL FOR MORAY
BY: DIRECTOR OF EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

1. Reason for Report

1.1 To report to the committee that in the year 2001/2 the Arts Council for Moray made a grant award in excess of the maximum allowed under the terms of the constitution.

2. Background

2.1 Each year the Arts Council for Moray applies to Moray Council for a Community Development Grant. The Arts Council for Moray uses this grant to make awards to groups affiliated to the Arts Council for Moray.

2.2 Paragraph 11 (c) of the Arts Council for Moray constitution states:

“The Executive Committee may authorise expenditure out of the Arts Council’s funds for the furtherance of the objectives of the Arts Council subject to the approval of the Moray Council declaring however that in the case of grants to individuals or individual clubs deriving from funds allocated by the Arts Council shall not require The Moray Council’s approval to making a grant to an individual or to a club in any financial year provided that the overall total of amount of such grants and that no one individual or club shall be awarded more than 12½% of the Arts Council’s annual subvention in any financial year without prior approval of The Moray Council.”

2.3 In 2001/2 the grant awarded to the Arts Council of Moray was £5000 meaning the maximum grant able to be awarded to any group or individual was £625.

3. The Proposals

3.1 At an Executive Committee meeting of the Arts Council of Moray 23 January 2001 a request from the Buckie Choral Union for a grant of £500 was considered. It was decided, because of pressure on resources, that the grant would be paid in two stages of £250 with the second payment being made in the new financial year 2001/2.

3.2 At an Executive Committee meeting of the Arts Council of Moray on 11 December 2001 a grant of £475 was awarded to Buckie Choral Union. As a result a total of £725 was paid to Buckie Choral Union in 2001/2 exceeding the limit set by £100.

3.3 This action was brought to the attention of the Executive Committee by the auditors Johnston Carmichael.

- 3.4 Under the terms of the constitution of the Arts Council of Moray it is necessary to inform the Moray Council and the Committee is asked to note the situation.
- 3.5 In order to ensure this situation is not repeated a list of grants awarded to date and the maximum allowed under the terms of the constitution will be circulated at each meeting of the Executive Committee.

4. Financial, Staffing, Social, Economic and Environmental Implications

- 4.1 There are no financial, staffing, social, economic or environmental implications.

5. Consultations

- 5.1 The Head of Financial Services has been consulted and the situation was reported to the AGM of the Arts Council of Moray on 5 June 2002.

6. Corporate Plan

- 6.1 This report has no implications for the Corporate Plan.

7. Recommendations

- 7.1 It is recommended that the Committee homologates the action taken by the Executive Committee to grant £725 to the Buckie Choral Union in 2001/2 which exceeded the limit of 12.5% of the annual subvention by £100.**

Author of Report: Nick Fearne, Arts Development Officer

Background Papers:

Ref: DMD/JR/Reports/P&R