

**REPORT TO: POLICY COMMITTEE ON 5 MARCH 2008**

**SUBJECT: KEITH TRADITIONAL MUSIC & SONG ASSOCIATION  
(TMSA) FESTIVAL – REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL  
ASSISTANCE**

**BY: CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER**

**1. REASON FOR REPORT**

- 1.1 To invite the Committee to consider an application on behalf of the Traditional Music & Song Association – Keith Branch for a financial contribution towards its Annual Music Festival 2008. (Copy of application as attached in **Appendix 1**).
- 1.2 This report is submitted to Committee in terms of Section A(1) of the Council's Administrative Scheme relating to considering the financial and budgetary policy of the Council.

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 **It is recommended that the Committee consider the application for a grant from the Traditional Music & Song Association – Keith Branch and if agreed the fee will be met from the Small Grants Budget for 2007/08.**

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 The Traditional Music & Song Association (TMSA) aim to encourage listening and participation in traditional music of Scotland by way of a Festival weekend which is held in various venues throughout Keith.
- 3.2 Many events are held throughout the weekend including concert ceilidhs, dances, sessions and an open air concert. People come from all over the world to hear traditional Scottish music and song. Competitions are also held on the Saturday for people of all ages and competitors are judged to national TMSA standards. The competitions are a huge part of the Festival and are seen as a way to encourage young people to take an interest in Traditional music.
- 3.3 The Festival is one of the two major events which occur in Keith throughout the year and is one of the few remaining traditional music festivals that does not pay fees but in true traditional style provides hospitality for performing guests.
- 3.4 Expenditure includes accommodation, meals, travel, equipment, venue hire and accommodation.
- 3.5 The Policy & Resources Committee on the 20<sup>th</sup> April 2005 (para 7 of the minute refers) previously awarded a financial grant of £1,000 to the Keith Traditional Music & Song Association from the Section 20 budget.

- 3.6 The Policy & Resources Committee on the 10<sup>th</sup> April 2002 and 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2003 (para 9 and 4 of the minutes respectively refers) approved a grant of £1,000 in the form of a guarantee against loss to the Keith Traditional Music & Song Association.

#### **4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS**

**(a) Corporate Development Plan/Community Plan/Service Improvement Plan**

This report complies with the Environmental Programme within the Corporate Development Plan in that it supports the development of tourism in Moray.

**(b) Policy and Legal**

There are no Policy & Legal implications.

**(c) Resources (Financial, Risks, Staffing and Property)**

The Traditional Music & Song Association – Keith Branch have requested a £2,000 grant to help them keep the music festival of traditional music alive. If agreed the grant will be met from the Small Grants Budget for 2007/08, subject to confirmation being received on how monies will be spent towards the Festival. **Appendix 2** provides details of the Small Grants Budget.

**(d) Consultations**

Consultations have taken place with the Chief Executive and the Chief Financial Officer who are in agreement with the content of the report.

#### **5. CONCLUSION**

- 5.1 That the Committee considers the request from the Traditional Music & Song Association for a grant of £2,000.**

Author of Report: Cynthia Carswell, Committee Services Officer

Background Papers: Application Letter

Ref: