



REPORT TO: POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE ON 2 FEBRUARY 2010

SUBJECT: SMALL GRANTS BUDGET (SECTION 20) – APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE – BUCKIE 150 STEERING GROUP

BY: CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 To invite the committee to consider a request for Section 20 grant assistance for Buckie 150 Steering Group to host a reception for the 150th anniversary of the R.N.L.I.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to committee in terms 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 Section 20 grant application for £855 to host a reception for the 150th anniversary of the R.N.L.I. If committee are minded to approve, the grant will be met from the Small Grants Budget for 2010/11.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Expenditure of this nature requires to be determined within the provisions of Section 83 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973. Under these provisions, as amended by the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003, such expenditure, now under Section 20, must not only be in the interests of the area, but should also bring direct benefit to the area or inhabitants commensurate with the expenditure incurred.
- 3.2 The Buckie 150 Steering Group has recently been set up for the purpose of organising the 150th anniversary of the R.N.L.I.
- 3.3 The event will be held during the Buckie R.N.L.I. Gala week from the 12th to 19th June 2010. The monies will allow the 150 Steering Group to invite special guests and dignitaries including sponsors, crew members, office bearers to a reception in The Buckie Drifter.

- 3.4 The Estates Department have granted the group a license to use the Buckie Drifter for two weeks for the celebrations. The group are liable to make the building safe and to arrange for it to be operational for their purposes. After the event they will be required to put the property back in mothballs. The Estates Section are not charging for the use of the Buckie Drifter as the Council will benefit from the repairs and servicing they will carry out to the electrics, water and heating system.
- 3.5 The Lifeboat has always been close to the heart of the people of Buckie for many years and they have given freely their time and money, appreciating the key role of the crew and the R.N.L.I. in protecting the lives of those who go to sea. The Buckie 150 Steering Group are planning a week long diary of events to celebrate and commemorate the occasion. The event would help promote Buckie as a place that appreciates those who volunteer to help others at sea. They feel that it would be a great honour if the Council would consent to host a Civic Reception.
- 3.6 The Buckie 150 Steering Group organise Soup and Sweet Events, Coffee Mornings, Tombolas, etc to raise money for the RNLI.

4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

- (a) **Single Outcome Agreement/Service Improvement Plan**
This refers to National Outcome 11 "We have strong, resilient and supportive communities where people take responsibility for their own actions and how they affect others". Local community organisations have a history of being active within their own communities.
- (b) **Policy and Legal**
None
- (c) **Resources (Financial, Risks, Staffing and Property)**
The Buckie 150 Steering Group is requesting a grant of £855 which would be for canapes and refreshments for 180 people at £4.75 a head. If committee were minded to approve, the fee will be met from the Small Grants Budget. **Appendix 1** provides details of the Small Grants Budget.
- (d) **Consultations**
Consultations have taken place with the Chief Executive and Deborah Bosworth, Principal Accountant who concur with the recommendations of the report.

5. CONCLUSION

- 5.1 That the Committee considers the request from Buckie 150 Steering Group to host a reception to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the R.N.L.I.

Author of Report: Cynthia Carswell, Committee Services Officer

Background Papers: Section 20 Grant application form and information from Buckie 150 Steering Group

Signature:  _____

Date: 26/1/10

Designation: Chief Legal Officer

Name: Roderick Burns