

REPORT TO: POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE ON 27 APRIL 2010

SUBJECT: SMALL GRANTS BUDGET (SECTION 20) – APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE – GRAMPIAN RACIAL EQUALITY COUNCIL

BY: CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 To invite the Committee to consider a request for Section 20 grant assistance for 2010/2011 for Grampian Racial Equality Council.
- 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 2010/2011 for Grampian Racial Equality Council (GREC) amounting to £2,600 and if agreed the grant will be met from the Small Grants Budget for 2010/2011.**

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 GREC's mission is "Working with others to ensure that everyone is valued for who they are and is able to contribute with encouragement and without fear of discrimination or unfair treatment." The aims of GREC which underpin their mission are:-
- To work towards the elimination of discrimination
 - To promote good relations between people
 - To promote equality of opportunity for all.
- 3.3 The financial assistance from the Moray Council would enable GREC to provide its core service to Moray Council. The funding would form Moray Council's contribution to GREC 's running/operating costs for providing a service in Moray. This would assist Moray Council to meet their equality duties in line with pertinent legislation and further build positive relationships with and meet the needs of Moray's diverse communities.

- 3.4 The grant would cover the period 1st April 2010 to 31st March 2011 and will assist with the running/operating costs of GREC, enabling them to provide a core service in Moray. This would include aspects such as contributing towards staff time/salary costs, Moray Council related work, overheads/office costs in providing Moray Council with a service, eg travel costs for attending meetings in Moray, telephone, postage, etc.
- 3.5 GREC would liaise with relevant Moray Council officials ie Corporate Policy Unit Manager, Equalities Officer to build further up the already established positive relationship and discuss further partnership work to take forward eg potential work concerning Moray multi equalities scheme, etc.
- 3.6 The nature of GREC's work would provide positive benefits to the whole of the Moray population and in particular Moray's diverse communities.
- 3.7 GREC receives funding from a range of sources such as grants/service level agreements with public bodies, voluntary grants, earned income eg training and mediation service, GREC graphics, etc.
- 3.8 A copy of their application form, constitution, annual report and audited accounts for 2008/09 is in the Members Library.

4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

(a) Single Outcome Agreement/Service Improvement Plan

This refers to National Outcome 7 "We have tackled the significant inequalities in Scottish Society" and the Local Outcome which states that "Inequalities in Moray will be addressed".

(b) Policy and Legal

None

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

The Grampian Racial Equality Council is requesting a grant of £2,600 for 20010/2011 and if agreed, the grant 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

ITEM:

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5.1 That the Committee considers the request from the Grampian Racial Equality Council for a grant of £2,600 for 2010/2011.

Author of Report: Cynthia Carswell, Committee Services Officer

Background Papers: Section 20 Grant application form and Annual Report from
Grampian Racial Equality Council

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