

REPORT TO: POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE ON 22 JUNE 2010

SUBJECT: SMALL GRANTS BUDGET (SECTION 20) – APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE – FUNDING – PSYBT AND THE ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND BUSINESS AWARDS

BY: CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 To invite the committee to consider a request to sponsor the runner-up prize for the Prince's Scottish Youth Business Trust (PSYBT) and the Royal Bank of Scotland Business Awards for young people who started up in business with support from the PSYBT.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to Committee in terms of the Council's Administrative Scheme relating to the exercising of the statutory power of the Council to advance well being under the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003.

2. RECOMMENDATION

2.1 That the committee agrees:-

- (i) **the application, in principle, to sponsor the £500 regional runner up prize of the Prince's Scottish Youth Business Trust (PSYBT) and the Royal Bank of Scotland Business Awards for young people who started up in business with support from the PSYBT; and**
- (ii) **that the Convener present the runner-up prize on 31st August 2010, if applicable.**

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 PSYBT are requesting a runner-up prize of £500 which would only be required if the winner was from the Moray area and would be presented by the Convener at an awards ceremony on the 31st August 2010. This Committee on the 25 August 2009 (para 23 of the minute refers) approved the request for 2009-10 financial year, however, the runner up did not come from the Moray Area, therefore no monies were paid out.
- 3.3 The aim of the group is to support young people in Scotland to start up and continue in business. Previous years' runner up was a Steven Wishart of SW Signs and Graphics in Buckie. The PSYBT do not mirror Council boundaries so it would not be till nearer the time whether the regional runner-up does hail from Moray. There is also a national awards ceremony which this year would

be held in Glasgow in November to which the Convener has been cordially invited to attend.

4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

(a) Single Outcome Agreement/Service Improvement Plan

This refers to National Outcome 3 and Local Priority 5 (Attainment & Achievement – Adults) There is a need to develop a more highly skilled workforce to support economic development.

(b) Policy and Legal

The relevance to the national outcome would be to improve overall qualifications and achievement of residents by supporting them to become better educated and more skilled.

There are no legal obligations.

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

The Prince's Scottish Youth Business Trust is requesting the sponsorship of the regional runner-up prize of £500 and if agreed could be met from the Section 20 Small Grants budget for 2010/11. A summary of the grants awarded to date compared with those in previous years is attached as **Appendix 1** to the report. THE PSYBT's annual report and accounts is available in the Members Lounge. A copy of the grant application form is also available in the Members Lounge.

(d) Consultations

Consultations have taken place with the Chief Executive, Head of Financial Services and Deborah O'Shea, Principal Accountant concur with the recommendations in the report.

5. CONCLUSION

- 5.1 That the committee agree, in principle, to award a runner-up prize of £500 for the Prince's Scottish Youth Business Trust to be presented by the Convener at the ceremony on the 31st August 2010, if applicable .**

Author of Report: Cynthia Carswell, Committee Services Officer

Background Papers: Letter and grant application form.