ANGUS COUNCIL

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE - 2 SEPTEMBER 2014

FINANCIAL SUPPORT PROVIDED TO ANGUS COMMUNITY COUNCILS

1. BACKGROUND

On 28 October 2003, the Strategic Policy Committee approved a 'Policy Statement on the Council's Relationship with Angus Community Councils'. This has since been reviewed and updated in November 2013. Incorporated within that policy is a general statement of principle about the Council's relationship with community councils which reads:

"As part of its commitment to customer/citizen focus, Angus Council is committed to working with community councils for the good of the Angus community and, in pursuit of its corporate and/or service objectives and priorities, Angus Council will work with and support all community councils within Angus."

There are currently 24 operational Community Councils in Angus. Each Community Council receives an administrative grant from Angus Council, the sum of which depends on how many members make up the council and the population of which it serves. Over the period 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2014, Angus Council contributed a total of £19,425.00 via administrative grants.

Community Councils also benefit from our support via an 'electronic communications payment'. This payment of £5,520.00 encourages and supports Community Councils to communicate with us electronically; saving Angus Council money on printing and postage costs. 23 Community Councils currently receive this payment.

Angus Council also reimburses hall-let costs incurred by Community Councils to hold their meetings. Angus Council gave Community Councils £487.50 for this purpose.

As agreed by this committee in March 2009, Angus Council approved a fund of £26,000 to furnish Community Councils with computer equipment to support them in their role as a statutory engagement body within local communities. A total of £560.76 was given this year to councils to purchase equipment. Other support has been given 'in kind' by Angus Council; such as £1,675.00 for Christmas light switch-on events by our Roads Division and the equivalent of £839.75 through councils using the People Directorate's buildings free of charge.

2. CONCLUSIONS

This committee is informed that a total of £28,578.01 has been given either in cash or non-cash support to Angus Community Councils. A fuller breakdown and further information can be found on the full report. Appendix to Schedule

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