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Item No:

COMHAIRLE NAN EILEAN SIAR

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE:
21 JUNE 2007

FÈISEAN NAN GÀIDHEAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

Report by Chief Executive

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek Members approval to provide financial support for the post of Development Officer with Fèisean nan Gaidheal.

COMPETENCE

1.1 There are no legal or other constraints to the recommendations being implemented.

SUMMARY

2.1 Fèisean nan Gaidheal has requested financial assistance from the Comhairle to part fund the new post of Fèisean nan Gaidheal Development Officer based in the Western Isles. Funding of £8,000 per annum for three years has been requested

2.2 The Fèisean Development Officer will be responsible for supporting the individual Fèisean in the Western Isles, offering assistance with new developments and generally assisting with the implementation of Fèisean nan Gaidheal's approved Development Plan for the Western Isles.

2.3 There are now seven annual Fèisean in the Western Isles from Fèis Bharraigh in the South to Fèis Taigh Dhonnachaidh in the North of Lewis. Fèisean nan Gaidheal has a successful track record of promoting and developing Gaelic music, culture and heritage through community – based Gaelic arts tuition festivals throughout the Western Isles and throughout Scotland.

RECOMMENDATIONS

COMATAIDH POILEASAIDH AGUS STÒRAS
21 OG-MHIOS 2007

OIFIGEAR LEASACHAIDH FÈISEAN NAN GÀIDHEAL

Aithisg leis an Àrd-oifigear

ADHBHAR NA H-AITHISG

1 A' sireadh aonta nam Ball gu taic ionmhais a thoirt airson dreuchd Oifigear Leasachaidh Fèisean nan Gàidheal.

COMASACHD

1.1 Chan eil buadhan laghail no eile co-cheangailte ri bhith a' buileachadh na molaidhean

GEÀRR-CHUNNTAS

2.1 Tha Fèisean nan Gàidheal a' sireadh taic airgid bho Chomhairle airson dreuchd ùr Oifigear Leasachaidh Fèisean na Gaidheal stèidhichte anns na h-Eileanan an Iar. Chaidh £8,000 sa bhliadhna iarraidh mu choinneimh na dreuchd seo airson trì bliadhna.

2.2 Bidh Oifigear Leasachaidh na Fèisean an urra ri taic a chumail ri na Fèisean fa leth anns na h-Eileanan an Iar, a' toirt taic le leasachaidhean ùra agus anns an fharsaingeachd a' toirt taic le bhith a buileachadh Plana Leasachaidh Fèisean nan Gàidheal anns na h-Eileanan an Iar.

2.3 Tha seachd Fèisean a gabhail àite gach bliadhna anns na h-Eileanan an Iar bho Fèis Bharraigh aig deas gu Fèis Taigh Dhonnchaidh ann an Nis. Tha cliù aig Fèisean nan Gaidheal ann a bhith a brosnachadh agus a leasachadh cèol Gàidhlig, cultar agus dualchas tro fèisean teagasg na h-ealain Gàidhlig sa choimhearsnachd air feadh nan Eilean Siar agus tro Alba.

MOLAIDHEAN

3.1 It is recommended that the Comhairle:

(1) agree to £8k being provided from the Gaelic Development Budget in 2007/08;

(2) agree to £8k be provided from the Arts Development Budget 2008/09; and

(3) agree to £4k from both the Gaelic and Arts Development Budgets in 2009/10 to provide funding for the post of full time Development Officer for Fèisean nan Gaidheal in the Western Isles.

3.1 Thatar a' moladh gun aontaich a' Chomhairle:

(1) **gun tigeadh £8,000 bho Bhuidseat Leasachaidh na Gàidhlig ann 2007/08;**

(2) gun tigeadh £8,000 bho Bhuidseat Leasachaidh na h-Ealain ann an 2008/09; agus

(3) gun tigeadh £4,000 bhon Bhuidseat Leasachaidh na Gàidhlig agus Buidseat na h-Ealain ann an 2009/10 mu choinneimh maoin airson dreuchd Oifigear Leasachaidh Fèisean nan Gàidheal làn-ùine anns na h-Eileanan an Iar

BACKGROUND

4.1 Fèisean nan Gaidheal is the organisation that supports the development of community based Gaelic arts tuition festivals throughout Scotland. Currently there are 43 fèisean events held annually in Scotland with 7 of these taking place in the Western Isles. Fèisean nan Gaidheal has its Headquarters in Portree but with workers based throughout Scotland including a part time Fèisean Support Worker in the Western Isles. Due to the increasing number of fèisean in the Western Isles and the increasing demands being made on the Support Worker, it is now considered essential that there should be a full time Development Officer based in the islands to develop the ideas and aspirations of the Community Fèisean in the Western Isles.

FEISEAN NAN GAIDHEAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

5.1 The specific tasks associated with the post of Development Officer will include;

(a) having regular liaison with and providing development support to community lead fèisean in the Western Isles;

(b) visiting fèisean on a regular basis;

(c) by the end of the year 1, and in conjunction with all fèisean to have developed clear plans for the development of each fèis locally, both in general terms and also for the promotion of the Gaelic language;

(d) devising, developing and writing funding applications for projects;

(e) contributing regularly to the Fèisean nan Gaidheal Website and Newsletter;

(f) providing regular progress Reports to the Board of Fèisean nan Gaidheal and other Agencies as and when required;

(g) in conjunction with Fèisean nan Gaidheal's Training Officer organising an annual gathering of Fèis Organisers in the area;

(h) organising on an annual basis, a Teenage Group Work Weekend for fèisean in the Western Isles;

(i) organising an annual ceilidh trail in the Western Isles;

(j) providing assistance to communities within the area looking for help to establish a new fèis in their area;

FIOSRACHADH

4.1 Is e Fèisean nan Gàidheal am buidheann a tha a; toirt taic do dh'obair leasachaidh fèisean teagasg na h-ealan Gàidhlig stèidhichte sa choimhearsnachd air feadh Alba. Tha 43 fèis an dràsta a' dol air feadh Alba gach bliadhna agus tha 7 dhiubh sin a' gabhail àite anns na h-Eileanan an Iar. Is ann am Port Righ a tha Prìomh Oifis Fèisean nan Gàidheal, ach tha luchd-obrach aca air feadh Alba, nam measg Neach-taice Fèisean anns na h-Eileanan an Iar. Air sgàth is gu bheil an àireamh de dh'fhèisean a sìor dhol am meud anns na h-Eileanan agus an tuilleadh iarrtais ga chuir air an Neach-taic, thàtar den bheachd gu bheil e a-nis èiseil Oifigear Leasachaidh làn ùine a bhith stèidhichte anns na h-eileanan gus beachdan agus amasan na Fèisean a leasachadh.

OIFIGEAR LEASACHAIDH FÈISEAN NAN GÀIDHEAL

5.1 Bidh na leanas mar uallaichean sònraichte air dreuchd Oifigear leasachaidh;

(a) co-cheangal cunbhalach le agus a' toirt taic leasachaidh do dh'fhèisean coimhearsnachd anns na h-Eileanan an Iar;

(b) a' tadhal air fèisean gu cunbhalach;

(c) ro dheireadh bliadhna 1, agus ann an co-cheangal leis gach fèis a bhith air planaichean soilleir airson gach feis a leasachadh, anns an fharsaingeachd agus a-thaobh brosnachadh na Gàidhlig;

(d) a' dealbhadh, a' leasachadh agus a' sgrìobhadh iarrtasan maoineachaidh airson pròiseactan;

(e) a' sgrìobhadh gu cunbhalach airson Làrach-lìn agus Cuairtlitir Fèisean nan Gàidheal;

(f) a' toirt aithisgean adhartais chunbhalach do Bhòrd Fèisean nan Gàidheal agus buidhnean eile mar a tha feumail;

(g) ann an co-bhonn ri Oifigear Trèanaidh Fèisean nan Gàidheal a bhith a' cuir air dòigh co-chruinneachadh bhliadhnail de Eagraichean Fèis anns an sgìre;

(h) cuir air dòigh gach bliadhna Deireadh Sheachdain Buidheann Obrach Deugairean airson fèisean anns na h-Eileanan an Iar;

(i) cuir air dòigh slighe ceilidh anns na h-Eileanan an Iar;

(j) a' toirt taic do choimhearsnachdan anns an sgìre a bhiodh airson feis ùr a' stèidheachadh;

(k) assisting in the staging of showcase concerts or similar events as and when required by Fèisean nan Gaidheal;

(l) assisting with the implementation of Fèisean nan Gaidheal's Development Plan;

(m) liasing with other bodies involved in the development of Gaelic arts and traditional music and where appropriate working in partnership with these bodies;

(n) ensuring that the fèisean maintain the high profile status that they have earned over the last few years.

(k) a' toirt taic le bhith a cuir air dòigh cuirmean-ciùil foillseachaidh no tachartasan eile da leithid mar a thèid iarraidh le Fèisean nan Gàidheal;

(l) a' toirt taic le bhith a' buileachadh Plana Leasachaidh Fèisean nan Gàidheal;

(m) co-cheangal le buidhnean eile an sàs ann an leasachadh na h-ealain Gàidhlig agus cèol dualchasach agus far a bheil seo iomchaidh obrachadh ann an co-bhonn le na buidhnean sin;

(n) a' dèanamh cinnteach gu bheil na fèisean a cumail an inbhe àrd a choisinn iad thairis na dha no trì bhliadhnachan mu dheireadh.

CONCLUSION

6.1 This project is worthy of support as establishing the post of Development Officer with Fèisean nan Gaidheal will allow the organisation to build on extensive work already done in promoting and developing Gaelic arts and music tuition festivals in the Western Isles. The Fèisean have helped considerably to raise the profile of the Gaelic language in the eyes of young people in particular and helped them gain an appreciation of the rich Gaelic music and cultural heritage of the Western Isles.

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CO-DHÙNADH

6.1 Tha am Pròiseact seo airidh air taic a-thaobh am buannachd a bhiodh an luib dreuchd Oifigear Leasachaidh Fèisean nan Gàidheal a' stèidheachadh anns na h-Eileanan an Iar. Bhiodh e a' toirt cothrom don bhuidheann leudachadh air an obair mhòr a chaidh a dhèanamh mar tha ann a bhith a' leasachadh agus a' brosnachadh fèisean ealan agus cèol Gàidhlig anns na h-Eileanan an Iar. Tha na Fèisean air cuideachadh gu mòr le bhith a' togail inbhe na Gàidhlig ann an sùilean dhaoin' òga, a' toirt dhaibh meas air an saoibhreas de cheòl Gàidhlig agus dualchas cultarail nan Eilean Siar.

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