



ARMADALE AND BLACKRIDGE LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

PENSIONERS' GROUPS CHRISTMAS FUND PROVISIONAL ALLOCATIONS 2014

REPORT BY HEAD OF AREA SERVICES

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to inform the Local Area Committee of the provisional allocations made from the Pensioners' Groups Christmas Fund 2014 to groups in the Armadale and Blackridge ward, Livingston-wide groups and West Lothian-wide groups.

B. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the committee notes that nine groups within Armadale and Blackridge ward have applied to the fund and will be supported.

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

I Council Values	Being honest, open and accountable. Focussing on our customers' needs. Making best use of resources. Working in partnership.
II Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment)	The duty of Best Value is set out in the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003.
III Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers	The Head of Area Services has the delegated authority to make the final allocations and payments.
IV Impact on performance and performance Indicators	None.
V Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement	SOA 5 - Older people are able to live independently in the community with an improved quality of life.
VI Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)	Total fund of £28,481 agreed by Council. £3,382.56 will be distributed in Armadale and Blackridge ward.
VII Consideration at PDSP	Following consideration at all nine Local Area Committees, an update will be prepared for the

Voluntary Organisations PDSP.

VIII Other consultations

Similar reports will be prepared for the other eight LAC's.

D. TERMS OF REPORT

D1 Background

Council approves the Pensioners' Groups Christmas Fund each year. In 2014 the total fund amounts to £28,481 (£28,199 in 2013). The fund is divided by the total number of beneficiaries which, in 2014, provisionally, is 3,637 (4,857 in 2013). By using that number the provisional global unit cost for 2014 is £7.83 (£5.81 in 2013) per beneficiary (£28,481/3,637). In Armadale and Blackridge ward there are 432 beneficiaries and an allocation of £3,382.56. These figures are provisional as one organisation has not yet returned an application form and this is being followed-up. Given the above, no substantive change to the global or ward specific figures is anticipated at this time. If any substantive changes arise in regards to Armadale and Blackridge ward, the LAC will be advised. Otherwise, a full report on the final allocations will be made to the Voluntary Organisation PDSP later in the year. Letters will be issued to groups in late October advising them of the amount of funding they will receive and payments will be made directly to the bank accounts of groups during November via PECOS.

D2 Applications 2014: Armadale and Blackridge Ward

Ten application forms were issued to groups across Armadale and Blackridge ward, with nine returned to date. The intent is that all nine will be supported. Appendix one shows the organisations to be supported and the provisional allocation to each.

D3 Applications 2014: Livingston-Wide & West Lothian-Wide Organisations

One application was sent to and, returned by a Livingston-wide group. The intent is that this will be supported. Two applications were issued to West Lothian-wide groups, with one returned to date. The intent is that this group will be supported. Appendix two shows the organisations and the provisional allocation to each.

E. CONCLUSION

The report advises of the provisional allocations that are proposed to be made from the Pensioners' Groups Christmas Fund 2014 to groups in Armadale and Blackridge ward, Livingston-wide groups and West Lothian-wide groups. At this time, no substantive change to the global or ward specific figures is anticipated.

A full report on the final allocations will be made to the Voluntary Organisation PDSP later in the year. Letters will be issued to groups in late October advising them of the amount of funding they will receive, and payments will be made directly to the bank accounts of groups during November via PECOS.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

Voluntary Organisations Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel, Review of the Pensioners' Groups Christmas Fund Process 2011, Report By Head Of Area Services.

Appendices/Attachments: Appendix 1: Provisional Allocations 2014 Armadale and Blackridge Ward

Appendix 2: Provisional Allocations 2014 Livingston-wide and West Lothian-wide Organisations

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