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***THIRD SECTOR GRANTS - FUNDING PRIORITIES FOR 2014/15 ONWARDS***

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**1. SUMMARY**

- 1.1 Given the high level of demand for Third Sector Grant funding in the MAKI area, members are asked to consider their funding priorities for 2014/15 onwards.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 That new projects and applicants continue to be prioritised.
- 2.2 That members prioritise groups that support vulnerable people in recognition that these groups may be less likely to thrive without grant funding support and may have limited opportunities to generate income.
- 2.3 That, as a general rule, repeat applicants receive a reduction in Third Sector Grant funding support each year - except in exceptional circumstances and/or where the applicant is seeking funding to support vulnerable people - and are supported and encouraged to generate additional income and seek alternative funding, where possible.
- 2.3 That members continue to prioritise applicants who can demonstrate economic benefit, particularly with regards to events and festivals.

**3. DETAILS**

- 3.1. New projects and applicants have been acknowledged as priorities for Third Sector Grant funding in recent years and the effect of this is reflected in the number and diversity of new applications received in the first funding round in 2013.
- 3.2. Repeat applicants have decreased in 2013 and many of those applicants who have not applied this year have been given advice and support to seek alternative funding or generate additional income.

**4. CONCLUSION**

- 4.1. Members consider the detail and recommendations above.

**5. IMPLICATIONS**

*Policy: None*

*Finance: None*

*Personnel: None*

*Legal: None*

*Equal Opportunities: Grant allocation is consistent with the Equal Opportunities policy of Argyll and Bute Council.*

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