

NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE BOARD – 1 JULY 2003

REPORT OF THE MANAGER OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

DESFORD COLLIERY BAND – NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Purpose of report

To advise members of a request by a member.

Decision Required

To decide whether or not to give a grant to the Band and if so what amount.

Policy matters

This grant is outside the Council's Strategic Arts Development Grant criteria and is not in line with the 1999 – 2004 Arts Development Strategy.

Financial/staff resources

Any grant would need to be a supplementary estimate or taken from balances.

Anti-poverty

Nil.

Crime and disorder

Nil.

Human rights

Nil.

E.Government

Nil.

1.0 Introduction

1.1 This report has been presented at the request of Councillor Ray Woodward.

The Council gave financial support of £1,500 last year towards the bands £3,000 deficit. The band finished 8th out of 21 bands in last years National Championships (Premier Section) of Great Britain Finals. Members may recall that the Snibston Co-operative band also received funding to attend the national finals in its section.

This is a high profile and prestigious event with the top bands in the country competing against each other.

- 1.2 The Desford Colliery Band has won through to the National Finals of the Brass Band Championships again, to be held at the Royal Albert Hall in London on 18 October 2003.

2.0 **Costs**

- 2.1 The cost of being represented in the competition is significant:-

Transport of instruments, stands, uniforms etc and transport of same in London – 2 day coach hire	£ 750
Professional conductor fee	£1,500
Specialised instrument hire and hall hire in London for rehearsal	£ 750
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	£3,000
Accommodation, music and individual travel, approximately:	£2,000
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Total expenditure	£5,000
Income raised from funding	£2,000
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	£3,000

This leaves a deficit of £3,000.

Councillor Woodward believes it would be a great disappointment if the band, based in Coalville, is unable to attend because of the cost. He is suggesting the Council considers making a grant up to £3,000 to allow the Band to attend.

3.0 **RECOMMENDATION**

3.1 **IT IS THEREFORE RECOMMENDED THAT:**

A) MEMBERS VIEWS ARE REQUESTED.

Background papers: Nil

S B Town
Manager of Community Services

2 June 2003

(Contact officer: G Lewis – extension 601)

(Committee Reports/Executive Board/Desford Band2)