

**NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL  
REPORT**

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| To: ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE               | Subject: CLYDE AND AVON VALLEY LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIP |
| From: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES |  |
| Date: 26 JULY 2011                                 | Ref: KW/JT/VA  |

**1. Introduction**

1.1 This report outlines the progress being made towards a bid to Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) for the Clyde and Avon Valley Landscape Partnership (CAVLP). It seeks approval to enter into a partnership with South Lanarkshire Council, Scottish Natural Heritage and a range of local partners to submit the stage two application and to deliver the project if the application is successful.

**2. Background**

2.1 The CAVLP is a Heritage Lottery funded project which aims to conserve and enhance the beautiful landscape and cultural heritage of the Clyde and Avon Valleys for present and future generations. The boundary is defined by the Area of Great Landscape Value (AGLV) designated in both North and South Lanarkshire Local Plans, and is framed to the north by Chatelherault Country Park in Hamilton, and to the south by the Falls of Clyde Scottish Wildlife Trust Reserve, both key sites designated within the Clyde Valley Woodlands National Nature Reserve.

2.2 The main aims of the project are to:

- strengthen the connection between community and landscape by providing a range of volunteering and learning opportunities
- develop heritage skills and strengthen land management practices
- raise awareness of the area's history, culture and importance as a source of food for Glasgow and the surrounding area
- mitigate the adverse visual effects of recent development and introduce new elements that reinforce the landscape character
- bring a co-ordinated, integrated investment mechanism
- ensure landscape and community needs are met
- ensure the landscape is conserved and restored

2.3 The lead partner in the Landscape Partnership is South Lanarkshire Council and the other partner organisations involved are North Lanarkshire Council, Central Scotland Forest Trust, Clydesdale Community Initiatives, Forestry Commission Scotland, RSPB Scotland, The Rural Development Trust, Scottish Natural Heritage, New Lanark Conservation Trust and Scottish Wildlife Trust.

2.4 The HLF development award is a 'first-round pass' in a two stage grant application process and indicates support but does not guarantee further funding for the scheme. The sum of £100,000 has been secured from HLF for the first year to develop a

Landscape Conservation Action Plan (LCAP) in preparation for a second round HLF grant submission. A further grant application to the value of £1.9M will be submitted to the HLF Landscape Partnership Fund in September 2011 as a contribution to the overall costs of the £5M project. The balance of the funding will be sought from a wide range of sources to deliver projects over the following five years.

- 2.5 A Project Team has been recruited to engage and work closely with partners, communities and landowners to develop a portfolio of projects which will provide social, economic and environmental benefits for the area of the Clyde and Avon Valleys. The team will be committed to engaging local people in the development of the Landscape Conservation Action Plan to ensure that the project meets the needs of the community and safeguards the unique landscape character of the area.

### **3. Partnership Agreement**

- 3.1 A partnership agreement for the development phase has been drafted and is available in the Members library. This agreement sets out the expectations for each funding partner. It outlines the council's role in attending steering group and board meetings and in contributing to the costs of the development phase.

### **4. Corporate And Financial Implications**

- 4.1 A contribution from NLC of £5,000 has been allocated towards the development phase from the Greenspace Projects budget 2011/12. To achieve projects identified in the LCAP, funding will be sought from external sources and existing budgets to match the HLF contribution.
- 4.2 This project is in line with the corporate themes of environmental enhancement and extensive partnership working. Attendance at steering group and board meetings will be by staff from Greenspace Development services.

### **5. Recommendations**

- 5.1 That the committee gives approval to proceed with the stage two bid in partnership with SLC and SNH.
- 5.2 That the committee agrees to delegate authority to the Executive Director of Environmental Services to enter into a partnership agreement, as noted at appendix A, for the development year and for the delivery phase should the bid be successful.
- 5.3 That the committee refers this report to the Planning and Transportation committee for information.



**KENNETH WILSON  
HEAD OF LAND SERVICES**

Local Government Access to Information Act: for further information on this report, please contact Vicky Abernethy, Assistant Business Manager Greenspace Services on 01236 780636