

**NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL
COMMITTEE REPORT**

To: POLICY AND RESOURCES (REGENERATION & INFRASTRUCTURE) SERVICES SUB COMMITTEE		Subject: Supplier Development Programme Limited – Board Membership
From: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES		
Date: 16 May 2013	Rep: 1719/RS	

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek agreement to the appointment of an elected member to the Board of the Supplier Development Programme Limited.

2. Background

2.1 The Supplier Development Programme (SDP) is a business growth programme which delivers a range of specialist business support activities to assist small and medium sized (SME) businesses access the public sector contracting marketplace which in Scotland represents £9.2billion each year.

2.2 The Supplier Development Programme operates as a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee. The ownership of the company would include all founder members and those organisations permitted to join as a result of board approval. There are currently 25 members of the company.

2.3 All members have the right to appoint a representative to act in their interest on the Board of Directors. There are currently 15 directors on the Board. The board is chaired by Cllr Chris Thomson (South Lanarkshire Council).

2.4 The board meets at least twice a year in Glasgow and is responsible for the proper conduct of the company's affairs. The company employ no staff directly but services for the programme are delivered through a team of staff based at Glasgow City Council.

3 Programme of Activity

3.1 The company delivers a programme of activity throughout Scotland which enable SME's to find out more about supplying services to large public and private sector organisations. This would also include seminars on the tendering process, highlighting key procurement issues, 'meet the buyer' and other sector specific events. 300 North Lanarkshire companies have registered with the programme.

3.2 The programme has been subject to a review which is currently ongoing. The outcome of this review will put in place a new management structure and forward plan for the company.

3.3 The council provides £10,000 of annual funding to support the work of the company and the services provided to the 300 registered North Lanarkshire companies.

3.4 The appointment of an elected member representative to the board would be welcomed by the company. The service is supportive and would recommend the appointment as there is a need to bring fresh perspective in light of the management structure and the new forward plan being put in place

4. Recommendations

- 4.1 It is recommended that Committee nominates an elected member to be appointed to the board of the Supplier Development Programme Limited.



Paul Jukes

Executive Director of Environmental Services

Local Government Access to Information Act: for further information please contact Robert Sharp on 01698 302198