

**NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL  
COMMITTEE REPORT**

<b>To:</b> POLICY AND RESOURCES (REGENERATION & INFRASTRUCTURE) SUB COMMITTEE		<b>Subject: EXTERNAL FUNDING UPDATE</b>
<b>From:</b> HEAD OF PLANNING & REGENERATION		
<b>Date:</b> 20 February 2014	<b>Rep:</b> 1756/LW V2	

**1.0 Purpose of Report**

1.1 To update the committee on the outcome of recent external funding applications and related projects.

**2.0 Background**

2.1 In the Scottish Government's Regeneration Strategy launched in December 2011, it was announced that there would be a £25 million annual fund to be made available from 2014/15. This RCGF has been created from £12.5m of local government funding previously distributed to Urban Regeneration Companies (URCs) through Scottish Enterprise, along with £12.5m from the Scottish Government regeneration programme budget. During 2014/15 and 2015/16 £4.5m and £3.5m respectively will be top sliced from the fund to maintain direct support for Clyde Gateway, Riverside Inverclyde and Irvine Bay URCs.

2.2 Reports were submitted to committees of 16 May 2013 and 5<sup>th</sup> September advising of development work and final submissions to the RCGF. These submissions were: -

1. Cumbernauld Community Enterprise Centre – NLC Lead Applicant
2. Forgewood Community Centre – NLC Lead Applicant
3. Gartcosh Advanced Development Programme – Fusion Assets Lead Applicant
4. Bio-Support Estate, BioCity, Newhouse - Fusion Assets Lead Applicant

2.3 Separately a £2.75 million Town Centre Housing Fund was launched by the Scottish Government in October 2013. The fund is part of a package of measures aligned to the Scottish Government's Town Centre Action Plan which seeks to regenerate town centres across Scotland. Open to all local authorities, as well as housing associations and private developers, the fund seeks to bring vacant and empty town centre properties back in to use for affordable housing.

2.4 In partnership with Clyde Valley Housing Association, an application for £150,000 was submitted to convert derelict NLC-owned properties at 7-13 Banks Street (Coatbridge) to seven 1 and 2 bedroom flats; which will be made available for social rent.

**3.0 Application Outcome**

3.1 In November 2013, the Scottish Government announced the outcome of the RCGF. A total of £27.6m was awarded to 22 projects over financial years 2014/15 and 2015/16. This followed an initial 147 applications made to the first stage application phase of which only 41 were approved to stage 2.

- 3.2 NLC was provisionally awarded £5m in total, with £4m for Cumbernauld Community Enterprise Centre and £1m for Forgewood Community Centre. This is the full amount requested for these projects. No award was made to the Fusion Assets projects. Despite the Fusion Assets applications being unsuccessful, this is a very positive outcome for North Lanarkshire.
- 3.3 On 20<sup>th</sup> December, the full £150,000 applied to from the Town Centre Housing Fund was confirmed. This was one of only seven awards made from this fund across Scotland. Planning and Regeneration Services have committed £80,000 towards this regeneration project although capacity to take this forward will be subject to being able to meet necessary planning requirements for noise and vibration as well as timescales required for confirmation of all project match funding.

## **6.0 Financial Implications**

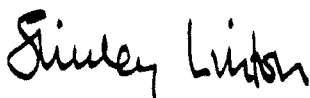
- 6.1 Detailed design for the Cumbernauld Community Enterprise Centre is being progressed within existing budget approvals; as is the support to the Bank Street project with CVHA. Work is ongoing to secure the remaining match funding for Cumbernauld Community Enterprise Centre which will be subject to a separate approval.

## **7.0 Corporate Considerations**

- 7.1 The Bank Street project being delivered via CVHA has been developed with the knowledge and support of Housing & Social Work Services, while the Cumbernauld Community Enterprise Centre is being developed with the full support of both Learning & Leisure Services and Culture NL.

## **8.0 Recommendations**

- 8.1 It is recommended that Committee
- (i) Note the content of this report and the successful funding applications.



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**Head of Planning & Regeneration**

Local Government Access to Information Act: for further information please contact Lynne Ward on 01236 632 853.