



To: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE		Subject: CUMBERNAULD TOWN CENTRE - ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT PROGRAMME PHASE TWO
From: DIRECTOR OF PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT		
Date: 25 January 2001	Ref: Rep766	

1 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 This report seeks approval for the second phase of the Cumbernauld Environmental Enhancement Programme to be undertaken by the Planning and Environment Department under the auspices of the Environment Task Force thereby optimising partnership funding. This report details the approach being proposed and provides outline costings at this stage in the development of the project.

2. Sustainability

- 2.1. The Cumbernauld Environmental Enhancement Programme meets the sustainable development policy adopted by the Council through Local Agenda 21 by addressing elements of all sections listed:-
- Section 1 "Building Planning and Land Use"
 - Section 2 "Natural Environment"
 - Section 8 "Social Needs"
 - Section 9 "Arts, Culture and Leisure"
 - Section 10 "Participation and Democracy"
 - Section 11 "Partnership and Funding"

3 Background

- 3.1 The Planning and Environment Department recognises the need for the Council to become involved in initiating quality environmental improvement projects which can be delivered under the auspices of the Environment Task Force thereby providing quality training opportunities for local residents while contributing to environmental improvements across North Lanarkshire. The Department has devised a model of partnership working which will create the maximum number of jobs thereby benefiting a significant number of beneficiaries; providing certificated training; progressing beneficiaries into full-time work or further education; and linking in partnership with the local community and the existing network of support services.

4 Approach

4.1 Town Centre Initiatives Limited, in consultation with this Department, identified a number of projects to be delivered in the Cumbernauld Town Centre area. Phase Two builds upon the excellent work carried out in the first phase offering continuity in terms of strategic environmental impact, funding contributions and the ability to deliver. Those projects which have been identified and selected are detailed below:-

Site 1	-	St Mungo Service Road.
Site 2	-	Petrol Station Site.
Site 3	-	St Mungos Parish Church Site.

A summary of each project is attached as Appendix 1 to this report.

4.2 The total value for delivery of these projects has been estimated at approximately £102,600 by the Landscape Architect appointed by the Department, with additional professional costs of £10,000 and training costs of £16,000. Therefore the total cost of Phase Two is estimated at £128,600. Each project has been appraised as being appropriate to be delivered under the Environment Task Force due to the nature of the work and the specification of the project. Referring to an earlier report to the Economic Development Committee dated 4 March 1999 it was agreed by Committee that this model of delivery offered best value for the Council.

4.3 It is proposed that the three projects listed above should be deemed Phase 2 of the Cumbernauld Environmental Enhancement Programme and be delivered in partnership with Rock DCM Limited who have successfully carried out Phase One of the programme achieving both the cost and quality levels anticipated.

4.4 Rock DCM have recently established themselves in the Lanarkshire area and are able to tender for Council contracts in a competitive manner by offering quality employment and training opportunities on contracts that are not normally suitable for training projects. In their returned tender for Phase One they were £68,000 below the Wise Group tender. Rock DCM have agreed to carry out Phase Two using the same rates and have been invited to tender for this contract subject to Committee approval.

4.5 It is estimated that these projects will cost £128,600 to deliver and would be funded as follows:-

NLC Environment Task Force	-	£9,100
NLC Social Inclusion Fund	-	£30,000
NLC Planning Dept	-	£65,000
Town Centre Initiatives	-	£2,500
Campsie Centres	-	£5,000
SEL Environments	-	£12,000
Private Owner Contribution	-	£5,000
Total	-	£128,600

4.6 On completion of this project the programme would be evaluated to ensure the desired level of quality in the physical works and all training outputs were achieved.

4.7 In constructing the proposal for both Phases of the project the following assumptions have been made.

- The funding model is based on indicative costs of £128,600 which were arrived at by the Economic Development Unit in consultation with Martin Berkley Landscape Architects. The costs include all elements of project implementation, ie. labour, plant, materials, professional fees, sub-contractors, travel etc.
- VAT is excluded.
- Work could be programmed over the six month period commencing April 2001.
- All of the participants employed in the programmes would be employed under New Deal (18-24) Environment Task Force Option.

4.8 Accordingly the programme could:

- create an average of 6 training places at any one point in time, a projected total of 10 beneficiaries.
- progress 60% of beneficiaries (6) into full-time work/further education.
- provide certificated training to 10 people.
- award a level 2 vocational qualification to 6 people.

5 Conclusion

- 5.1 All the sites in this programme have been identified by the Cumbernauld Town Centre Manager in consultation with the local Planning office and the Economic Development Unit with the three listed in this report identified as priorities.
- 5.2 The project provides an attractive example of partnership in practice by integrating capital expenditure on town centre and other environmental improvements from both North Lanarkshire Council's Planning and Environment Department and Scottish Enterprise Lanarkshires Environmental Team.
- 5.3 Scottish Enterprise Lanarkshire has committed verbally to supporting this project up to a maximum of £20,000 at this stage. Written confirmation will be sought from all funding partners once final costs have been calculated. The Planning and Environment Department's contributions to this project have been identified from the management income generated through the Environment Task Force and from within existing budgets.

6 Recommendation

The Committee is asked to note the contents of this report and approve:-

- (i) that the three projects identified in the report be delivered as Phase Two of Cumbernauld Environmental Enhancement programme on behalf of the Planning and Environment Department.
- (ii) that Rock DCM Limited be invited to tender for the contract to deliver Phase Two.
- (iii) the indicative funding model outlined in the report together with final figures be confirmed to the Economic Development Committee.
- (iv) that the report be remitted to the Planning and Environment Committee and the Social Inclusion Committee for information.



David M Porch
Director of Planning and Environment

For further information contact Fraser MacKenzie, Economic Development Officer, Tel 01236 616273
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