

## NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

## REPORT

To: GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE	Subject: CIVIC CENTRE: EXTERNAL WORKS – PODIUM/COURTYARD	
From: DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION		
Date: 20 October 2005	Ref: JAF/IL	

**1. Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 The report seeks homologation of the negotiation with, and extension of the contract with Ashlea Limited to encompass, also, the refurbishment of the stairways leading to the Civic Centre podium/courtyard.

**2. Background**

- 2.1 The Committee, at its meeting on 9 March, homologated the action taken to accept a tender from Ashlea Limited to carry out the construction of external works including paving, planting beds, lighting works etc. in the square courtyard area, the shop area and the access lane leading from Camp Street to the podium level at Motherwell Civic Centre.
- 2.2 Those works did not encompass works to the stairways leading from Windmillhill Street to the shop area, from the shop area to the car park area or from the podium area to the car park area. In the period since acceptance of that tender, however, the need for refurbishment of those stairways has become apparent. In particular, advice has been received that, in the absence of reconstruction works, the stairway leading from the shop area to the car park area will, within two years, no longer be operational and that it will be necessary to close that stairway.

**3. Proposals**

- 3.1 In view of the fact that the contractor remained on site, quotations were sought from Ashlea Limited for the necessary works and the price submitted amounted to £96,402.50. Those prices were checked by officers of the Departments of Housing and Property Services and Community Services and the advice received was that the rates were competitively quoted and the preliminaries were at a lower level than could have been expected from any contractor not otherwise on site.
- 3.2 The conclusion of the current contract is imminent and, having regard to the need to carry out this work and the advice received that the price quoted by the existing contractor represented value for money, following consultation with the Convener, action was taken to extend the existing contract with Ashlea Limited to cover the necessary works on the stairways at an additional cost of £96,402.50.

**4. Financial Considerations**

- 4.1 It is confirmed that provision exists to finance this work within the current year's capital budgetary allocation for Administration corporate accommodation.

5. **Recommendation**

- 5.1 It is recommended that the Committee homologate the action taken to extend the existing contract with Ashlea Limited for external works at Motherwell Civic Centre to encompass, also, the stairways at an additional cost of £96,402.50.

  
**Director of Administration**

*Members seeking further information on the contents of this report are asked to contact John Fleming, Head of Central Services on Extension 2228.*