

**NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL  
REPORT**

<b>To:</b> POLICY & RESOURCES (REGENERATION & INFRASTRUCTURE) SUB COMMITTEE		<b>Subject:</b> Regeneration Capital Grant Fund – Update
<b>From:</b> HEAD OF PLANNING & REGENERATION		
<b>Date:</b> 19 <sup>th</sup> May 2016	<b>Ref:</b> 1850/DG	

**1. Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the Scottish Government's Regeneration Capital Grant Fund (RCGF) Programme and seek approval to scope potential applications to future funding rounds.

**2. Background**

- 2.1 The Scottish Government's RCGF programme is an annual capital grant scheme for large-scale physical regeneration projects which support the policy objectives of the National Regeneration Strategy. It focuses on projects that engage and involve local communities and those that can demonstrate the ability to deliver sustainable economic and physical regeneration outcomes.
- 2.2 The fund is open to applications from all 32 local authorities (directly or on behalf of their partners) and/or special purpose vehicles specifically established to support regeneration activity across deprived areas. Submissions to this fund are made through a two stage application process.

**3. Previous RCGF Programmes**

- 3.1 To date, the Scottish Government has implemented three RCGF programmes covering 2014/15 to 2016/17. From these, the Council and Fusion Assets (NLC's arms length economic and property development company) have secured RCGF funding for four projects, drawing in over £7M capital from this scheme to support almost £13M total investment within North Lanarkshire.
- 3.2 Details of the progress made towards the implementation of these projects are outlined in Appendix 1.

**4. Future RCGF Programmes**

- 4.1 In March 2016, a paper was brought to COSLA's Settlement and Distribution Group to propose the continuation of the RCGF programme for a further three years between 2017/18 and 2019/20.
- 4.2 To meet required deadlines, this paper proposed that, if approved at the COSLA's Leaders meeting in April 2016, a call for stage 1 applications to the 2017/18 programme would be subsequently made (with a June submission deadline) with successful applicants invited to submit Stage 2 applications for approval in October (subject to outcomes of the parliamentary election and spending review process for 2017/18).

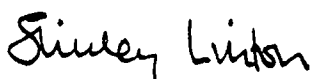
- 4.3 Due to the tight deadlines, notification of this proposed call for applications has been issued to relevant services, officers and partners to raise awareness of this funding opportunity and submission deadlines. To date, two potential applications have been flagged as follows:
- Fusion Assets – the development of an initial incubator unit at 'Lanarkshire Enterprise Park' (currently a serviced vacant and derelict land plot located within the recently designated BioCity Enterprise Area) in order to continue to expand the capacity of this Enterprise Area to become a 'life-science' hub for Central Scotland as well as create new opportunity for jobs and investment. In doing so, this unit will aim to build on and compliment the recent MediCity and BioCity developments by creating a facility which is targeted towards the life science supply and distribution chain (rather than research and production) which will in turn help create a more cohesive business offer within the Enterprise Area.
  - New College Lanarkshire – the conversion and improvement of surrounding buildings and streets adjacent to the Coatbridge Campus for new college/community nursery and parking provision as well as community gardens. Moreover, this project would free up the existing nursery site (currently provided within hatted accommodation) to allow, as a later phase of works, the development of a new teaching facility linked to potential vocational programmes for local schools and businesses.
- 4.4 Approval is sought to continue to work with partners to scope these potential applications and where applicable support any submission made.

## **5. Financial Implications**

- 5.1 This report has no financial implications for the Council.

## **6. Recommendations**

- 6.1 It is recommended that committee:
- i) note proposals from the Scottish Government to support the RCGF Programme for a further three years;
  - ii) approve the continued scoping of projects as outlined in 4.3 and where appropriate provide support for applications being made.



**Shirley Linton**  
**Head of Planning & Regeneration**

Local Government Access to Information Act: for further information about this report, please contact David Greer, Planning and Regeneration, (01236 632856)

## Appendix 1: Round 3 RCGF Applications

Project	Project Summary		Lead/Applicant	RCGF Secured
Cumbernauld Community Enterprise Centre	This project involves the construction of a mixed community and enterprise centre with new surrounding greenspace including a children's play area.	The new centre is currently under construction and due to be completed by July 2016 (with surrounding landscape works completed by December 2016).	North Lanarkshire Council	£4,000,000
Forgewood Community Centre	This project involves the replacement of the former Forgewood Community Centre and the creation of a new, high quality multi-functional community space (to be owned by Forgewood Housing Association).	The new centre is currently under construction and due to be completed by May 2016.	North Lanarkshire Council	£1,000,000
Coatbridge Enterprise Centre	This project involves the construction of a new enterprise centre at the former Luggie Glen Sewage Works in Coatbridge targeting start-up businesses, social enterprises and SMEs.	The enterprise centre is currently under construction and due to be completed by June 2016.	Fusion Assets	£1,116,591
Communities Enterprise Workspace - Newhouse	This project involves the construction of new enterprise workspaces at Newhouse designed to deliver high quality affordable work units targeted at start-up businesses, social enterprises and SMEs.	The indicative grant offer has been received from the Scottish Government with the formal grant offer subject to confirmation of planning approval and match funding.	Fusion Assets	£989,800