

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Report by the Executive Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development

**Housing, Environment and Economic Development Committee:
4 November 2009**

Subject: ENTRUST Landfill Communities Fund Projects

1. Purpose

- 1.1** The purpose of this report is to inform the Committee of funding which has been secured by Greenlight Environmental Ltd in partnership with the Council from the ENTRUST Landfill Communities Fund Scheme.

2. Background

- 2.1** In 1996 a tax on landfill waste was introduced as a mechanism to reduce the amount of land-filled waste and to promote a shift to more environmentally sustainable methods of waste management.
- 2.2** At the same time the Landfill Communities Fund (LCF) which is a government scheme was introduced as a Landfill Tax Credit Scheme to provide funding for community and environmental projects in the vicinity of landfill sites.
- 2.3** This tax credit scheme ensures that operators of landfill sites contribute money to registered 'Environmental Bodies' to undertake environmental projects which improve the lives of residents living near landfill sites.

3. Main Issues

- 3.1** The Landfill Communities Fund scheme is regulated by ENTRUST on behalf of HM Revenue & Customs and ENTRUST evaluate project applications and subsequently award funding to projects which are considered to deliver benefits to the environment.
- 3.2** Greenlight Environmental Ltd is registered as an Environmental Body (EB) with ENTRUST to allow the organisation to access funding for environmental projects within West Dunbartonshire. The company is also in partnership with Barr Environmental Ltd (Landfill Operator) to administer their proportion of tax offset by the scheme for the Auchencarroch landfill site.
- 3.3** Recently Greenlight Environmental Ltd and the Council developed two successful project submissions.

3.3.1 Christie Park - £302,000

A Project to restore and enhance the natural heritage features within Christie Park, Alexandria and to provide additional recreational facilities accessible by the community.

The project outline includes:-

- Hard landscaping such as resurfacing of paths, replacement of kerb edging, fencing and repairs to walls. (£96,000)
- Soft landscaping including shrub and tree planting, grass seeding and turfing (£6,000)
- Restoration of War Memorial (£130,000)
- Provision of signage boards, recreation facilities, installation of CCTV and woodland clearance work (£70,000)

3.3.2 Overtoun Estate - £470,000

A project to restore and enhance the grounds of Overtoun Estate and provide local residents and visitors with access to a valuable recreational and educational facility.

The project outline includes:-

- Hard landscaping including resurfacing of roads and paths, kerb laying, fencing, drainage and installation of park furniture (£280,000)
- Soft landscaping including tree and shrub planting, turfing and grass seeding (£15,000)
- Woodland management including removal of dangerous trees and planting of native species (£10,000)
- Provision of signage boards, recreation facilities, and CCTV (£165,000)

3.4 The ENTRUST Landfill Communities Fund will grant assist each of the projects to the value of 90% with the Council requiring to fund the remaining 10%

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|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| • Christie Park | £271,800 ENTRUST
£ 30,200 WDC |
| • Overtoun Estate | £432,000 ENTRUST
£ 47,000 WDC |

3.5 The funding will be spent over a 3 year period from 2010 - 2012 with works phased over the 3 years.

4. Personnel Issues

4.1 None.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1** The sums of £30,200 (Christie Park) and £47,000 (Overtoun Estate) will require to be contributed to the projects by West Dunbartonshire Council.
- 5.2** The projects will be phased over a 3 year period therefore the expenditure outlined in paragraph 5.1 above will be phased over 3 years. This expenditure be borne from the Grounds Maintenance Revenue Budget and will be delivered as work in kind.

6. Risk Analysis

- 6.1** There are no risks associated with this report.

7. Conclusions & Officers' Recommendations

- 7.1** The sums of £271,800 and £423,000 respectively for Christie Park and Overtoun Estate have been secured by Greenlight Environmental Ltd in partnership with the Council for environmental projects.
- 7.2** The Council will require to contribute a total sum of £77,200 over 3 years to the projects; this being funded from the Grounds Maintenance Revenue account as outlined in Section 5 of the report. This can be delivered as work in kind.
- 7.3** This funding offers the Council an excellent opportunity to undertake Improvement works at both locations and, in particular, facilitates essential restoration work, to the value of approx £130,000 to the War Memorial in Christie Park.
- 7.4** Members are asked to note the content of this report.

Elaine Melrose

Executive Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development

Date: 7 October 2009

Persons to Contact: Ronald M. Dinnie - Head of Land and Environment, Garshake Road, Dumbarton, G82 3PU, telephone: 01389 737601, email: ronald.dinnie@west-dunbarton.gov.uk

Lynda McLaughlin -Manager of Commercial Operations, Elm Road, Dumbarton, telephone: 01389 772097, e-mail: lynda.mclaughlin@west-dunbarton.gov.uk

Appendices: None

Background Papers: None

Wards Affected: All