

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Report by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services

Community Safety and Environmental Services Committee: 3 May 2006

Subject: Alexandria Town Centre Projects 2006-2007

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To advise the Committee of the proposed programme of town centre projects for Alexandria in 2006/2007.
- 1.2 To seek agreement for delegated powers to accept the most economically advantageous tender for Phase Three of the Shopfront Improvement Project.

2. Background

- 2.1 The approved General Services Capital Service Plan 2006/2007 includes an allocation of £100,000 for projects in Alexandria town centre.
- 2.2 The Committee will be aware that the Council has produced the Alexandria *Heart of the Vale* Town Centre Action Plan. The Action Plan was adopted as a policy document in May 2004.
- 2.3 Projects from the Action Plan which have been implemented to date include lighting the Smollet Fountain, improving fourteen shopfronts and installing new town signs.
- 2.4 In accordance with developing and implementing the Action Plan a programme of capital projects is proposed.

3. Main Issues

- 3.1 The main project priorities are listed below.
 - 3.1.1 Shopfront Improvement Project Phase Three - £70,000

The objective of the Shopfront Improvement Project is to enhance the appearance and presentation of shopfronts with the aim of improving the competitiveness of local businesses, improving the character of Main Street and contributing to the long term sustainability of the town centre. Eight shopfronts are proposed to be included in this phase. An architect has been appointed to design and manage the project.

3.1.2 Outline Masterplan - £14,000

The Action Plan has identified a number of potential development sites which will contribute to the regeneration of the town centre and improve the appearance of the area. A retail study, traffic study and parking study have been undertaken to inform this process and an outline masterplan is now required to explore how the appropriate development of sites within, and adjacent to, the town centre can be achieved.

4. Financial Implications

4.1 Provision has been made for these projects within the approved General Services capital programme 2006/2007.

5. Personnel Issues

5.1 There are no personnel issues.

6. Conclusions

6.1 The priority projects indicate the focus of regeneration activities for the coming year in Alexandria town centre and will continue the works that have been identified within the Alexandria *Heart of the Vale* Town Centre Action Plan. Other smaller scale projects will also continue in order to enhance Alexandria town centre for residents and visitors.

7. Recommendations

7.1 **The Committee is invited to:-**

- (a) support the proposed programme of capital projects as outlined in section 3; and**
- (b) delegate authority to the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services in consultation with the relevant Service Spokesperson and the Head of Legal and Administration Services to appoint contractors for Phase 3 of the Shopfront Improvement Project.**

David McMillan

Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services

Date: 18 April 2006

Wards Affected: 17, 18 & 22

Background Papers: Alexandria *Heart of the Vale* Town Centre Action Plan
Alexandria Retail Strategy
Alexandria Transport Feasibility Study
Non HRA Capital Plan 2006/07

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