

REPORT TO: POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE - 11 MARCH 2002

REPORT ON: PROPOSED LIFE SCIENCES RESEARCH CENTRE

JOINT REPORT BY: DIRECTORS OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & FINANCE

REPORT NO: 102-2002

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To describe the proposed development of a new Life Sciences Research centre at Dundee University and to propose that the Council supports this development with a financial contribution of £100,000 from the Common Good Fund.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 It is recommended that the proposed Life Sciences Research development is supported with a contribution of £100,000 from the Common Good Fund over the financial years 2002/03 and 2003/04.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 It is proposed that the £100,000 contribution to the proposed Life Sciences Research Centre is met from the Common Good Fund over the two financial years; £30,000 in 2002/03 and £70,000 in 2003/04.

4 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 This will be a Dundee University research facility and will adopt the University standards with regard to Local Agenda 21.

5 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 This will be a Dundee University research facility and will adopt the University standards with regard to Equal Opportunities.

6 REPORT

- 6.1 A request for financial assistance has been received from Sir Philip Cohen in respect of a proposal to develop a new research facility immediately to the east of the Wellcome Trust Biocentre. The proposed completion date is 2004 and the building will be connected and fully integrated with the existing Biocentre.
- 6.2 The project has several aims, one of these being to enable Dundee to become a world centre for a study, analysis and treatment of diabetes.

- 6.3 The project cost is estimated to be £15 million. Currently some £12.7 million is in place, leaving a further £2.3 million to be raised from 'others'.
- 6.4 This is a similar project to the Wellcome Trust Building and for that development the then Regional Council gave £500,000 and the District Council gave £50,000.
- 6.5 There are potentially 180 highly skilled jobs for the City in this project and the associated boost for the Life Sciences reputation that has already been established. There is also the potential to attract considerable private investment down the line.
- 6.6 It's worth noting that there is no involvement with the major medical charities as the research will be near market and therefore will not attract their money.

7 CONSULTATIONS

7.1 None.

8 BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 No background papers, as defined in Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report.

.....
DOUGLAS A A GRIMMOND
DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

.....
DAVID K DORWARD
DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

DATE:

DATE: