

REPORT TO: POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 8 March 2004

REPORT ON: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BETTER NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES FUND

REPORT BY: ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE (COMMUNITY PLANNING) AND HEAD OF COMMUNITIES DEPARTMENT

REPORT NO: 153-2004

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 This report seeks approval for a funding proposal to improve car parking in Kirkton via the Better Neighbourhood Services Fund.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee:-

2.1 approve the funding proposal set out in this report

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The full cost of the initiative detailed in this report is £45,000 which will be met from the Better Neighbourhood Services Fund 2003/04 allocation to Dundee City Council from the Scottish Executive.

4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Eligibility for access to funding under the Better Neighbourhood Services Fund is determined by the Scottish Executive on the basis of need. There is a close relationship between the Local Agenda 21 targets and the output agreement approved by the Scottish Executive in response to Dundee's Better Neighbourhood Services Fund proposals.

4.2 The proposal contained within this report responds to local concerns and needs, and will assist with implementation of the Area Regeneration Plan for the targeted neighbourhood. The measure contained within this report will have a positive impact on a number of Agenda 21 targets.

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The resources made available through the Better Neighbourhood Services Fund for geographic neighbourhoods are targeted on those areas which fall within the most disadvantaged 10% of enumeration districts at the time of the 1991 Census. The funding is also targeted on those areas which already have Social Inclusion Partnership status, and is intended to have the effect of equalling opportunities and enabling local authorities and their partners to sustain a higher level of public sector investment in these neighbourhoods than might otherwise have been possible.

6.0 BACKGROUND

- 6.1 The BNSF Co-ordinated Neighbourhood Management Initiative is focused on the two communities of Hilltown and Kirkton. To date approximately £2 million has been approved by Committee for specific investment in these two areas. The proposal outlined in this report represents the latest round of BNSF spending and has been the subject of extensive community consultation.

7.0 PROPOSAL

7.1 Car Parking in Kirkton

The street layout of parts of Kirkton is such that, in a number of pockets, householders are unable to park their cars outside of their house. There are also issues connected to congested and inappropriate car parking especially regarding the safety of children on the streets. As a matter of preference the majority of people wish their vehicles to be parked immediately outside their homes for convenience, safety and security. In addition, in some areas where there is only footpath access to houses, residents who are frustrated by the parking arrangements have taken to driving over or parking on the grass outside of their homes. This project is the latest in a series of projects designed to respond to these problems. Local people have been consulted and are in agreement with the proposal.

7.2 Car Parking, Kirkton Place

This project will provide additional car parking, more effective lighting and upgrade footpaths. This project will be jointly funded with the Housing Department who are contributing £30,000 (per Housing Committee 19 January 2004) towards the total cost of £75,000 leaving BNSF to fund the balance of £45,000.

***Cost £45,000
Lead Dept. DCC Housing***

8.0 CONSULTATION

- 8.1 Consultation has taken place with the Chief Executive, the Depute Chief Executive (Finance), Depute Chief Executive (Support Services), the Directors of Housing, Leisure and Arts, Education, Planning and Transportation, and Dundee Contract Services, the Head of Waste Management and the SIP Co-ordinator.
- 8.2 The elected member for the area has been party to the development of this project, as have community representatives and local people directly affected by the project.
- 8.3 This project is based on issues raised by local communities and will contribute towards achieving the targets set out in the BNSF Local Outcome Agreement. Ongoing consultation will take place once approval to progress has been agreed.

9.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers, as defined by 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.

Chris Ward

Assistant Chief Executive (Community Planning): _____

1st March 2004

Date: _____

Stewart Murdoch

Head of Communities Department: _____

1st March 2004

Date: _____