

REPORT TO: POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE - 28 MARCH 2011
REPORT ON: LETTER OF INTENT FOR APPOINTMENT OF V & A DESIGN TEAM
REPORT BY: CHIEF EXECUTIVE
REPORT NO: 195-2011

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to agree to the City Council issuing a Letter of Intent to Kengo Kuma appointing himself and his team as the Design Team for the V & A at Dundee project.

2 RECOMMENDATION

The Committee is asked to agree the following:

- 2.1 Instruct the Depute Chief Executive (Support Services) to issue a Letter of Intent to Kengo Kuma appointing himself and his team as the Design Team for the V & A at Dundee project and commence preparatory work up to the sum of £3.5 million.
- 2.2 Instruct the Chief Executive to bring forward to Committee a comprehensive report on the development, delivery and operation of the V & A Dundee project, and this will set out the City Council's future involvement and commitment to the V & A Dundee project.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The Director of Finance has confirmed that the City Council has already received confirmation of Scottish Government capital grant aid for the V & A at Dundee project of £0.458m in 2010/11, and £3.1m in 2011/12, for the purpose of funding the V & A at Dundee project. In total the City Council will receive £3.558m of grant aid, from which the fees for the V & A Design Team, headed by Kengo Kuma can be funded. The payment of these fees will have no additional financial implications for the City Council, beyond that of the £3.558m committed by the Scottish Government

4 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 This Report has been screened for any policy implications in respect of Sustainability, Strategic Environmental Assessment, Anti-Poverty, Equality Impact Assessment and Risk Management.

5 CONSULTATIONS

- 5.1 The Depute Chief Executive (Support Services), Director of Finance, Director of City Development and Assistant Chief Executive have been consulted and are in agreement with the contents of this report.

6 FURTHER INFORMATION

- 6.1 The Committee will be aware that a highly successful architectural competition was run to seek out the design team responsible for the development of the V & A at Dundee project. The successful design was submitted by Kengo Kuma, Japan, and since the announcement of the competition winners on 3 November 2010 the City Council and our partners in this project have been liaising with Kengo Kuma to establish the necessary processes and procedures, such that the design work can proceed. In order to advance this Kengo Kuma have requested a Letter of Intent to allow them to commit to the next stage, and be paid up to the sum of 3.5m. The Scottish Government has agreed that all the capital grant aid they will provide for this project will be delivered via Dundee City Council, and therefore it is appropriate that the City Council provide the Letter of Intent that is requested by Kengo Kuma. It is essential that the momentum that has been built up on this project is maintained and the issue of the Letter of Intent will ensure that the design team can press ahead with the next stage of the design work. When the formal contract with Kengo Kuma is available for signature then this matter will be reported back to Committee.
- 6.2 The Committee should consider a comprehensive report on the development of the V & A at Dundee project, and how the City Council will assist with the development, delivery and operation of this very important project. The Chief Executive has asked the officers of the City Council, to prepare this report and bring it back to Committee for consideration, as soon as is practicably possible.

7 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 7.1 Scottish Ministers letters of 28 February and 24 March 2011 to the Director of Finance, Dundee City Council committing funding of £0.458m and £3.1m respectively for financial years 2010/11 and 2011/12.

David K.Dorward
Chief Executive

Date 28 March 2011