

**REPORT TO: PLANNING & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE –
28 JANUARY 2002**

REPORT ON: HILLTOWN FAÇADE ENHANCEMENT GRANT SCHEME

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION

REPORT NO: 5-2002

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To bring to Committee's attention requests for grant assistance under the Façade Enhancement Grant Scheme in the Hilltown. Also, to bring to Committee's attention further problems that have occurred at 140-152 Hilltown during building works.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 Committee is asked to approve

- a a grant of £23,195 for improvements to shops at 116-124 Hilltown owned by Hillcrest Housing Association. This represents a 75% grant.
- b a grant of a further £11,000 for unforeseen repairs and improvements to 5 shop fronts at 140-152 Hilltown. This represents a 95% grant.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The estimated expenditure of £34,195 in the financial year 2001/2002 is included within the current approved Financial Plan for the financial year 2001/2002 and includes a £25,000 contribution from the Social Inclusion Partnership fund.

4 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Diversity and local distinctiveness are valued and protected. Encouraging investment in the District Centre is a positive step to these goals.

5 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 All existing accesses are to be retained which allows for disabled access.

6 BACKGROUND

6.1 Grant applications have been received for five shops in Hilltown. All the shops are owned by Hillcrest Housing Association.

a 116 Hilltown

Currently occupied by a gent's barbers, the proposal is to form a more traditional shop front, by removing the inappropriate shop front.

b 118 Hilltown

A grocers' shop will be refurbished in a similar manner to the above.

c 120A Hilltown

Presently vacant, its refurbishment will match the adjoining property.

d 124A Hilltown

A take away restaurant which will benefit from the upgrading of its existing frontage.

- 6.2 All planning permissions are in place for the changes to the shopfronts.
- 6.3 Committee will recall that at their meeting of 30 August 1999, they agreed that a part of Hilltown be included in a Façade Enhancement Grant Scheme. Committee will also recall that at their meeting of 26 February 2001, they agreed to offer a combined grant of £26,220 for the refurbishment of five shops at 140-152 Hilltown. This figure was increased by a further £1,805 which was approved by Committee on 24 September 2001.
- 6.4 It has become apparent that the general state of disrepair in the Hilltown area is far worse than has been experienced in the City Centre. Hence the need for further top up assistance.
- 6.5 As the work at 140-152 Hilltown progressed and the original fascia boards were removed further defects in the buildings were revealed. The revealed render was in a poor state of repair. On further examination of the repair costs, it is estimated that a further £11,000 of grants will be required to finish off the five shops.
- 6.6 In future the prospect of topping up grant offers is likely to occur again due to the state of the properties, therefore Committee should be made aware of this. In the annual report in April the process will be reviewed to take account of this.

7 CONSULTATIONS

- 7.1 The Chief Executive, Director of Finance, Director of Support Services and Director of Corporate Planning have been consulted and are in agreement with the contents of this report.

8 BACKGROUND PAPERS

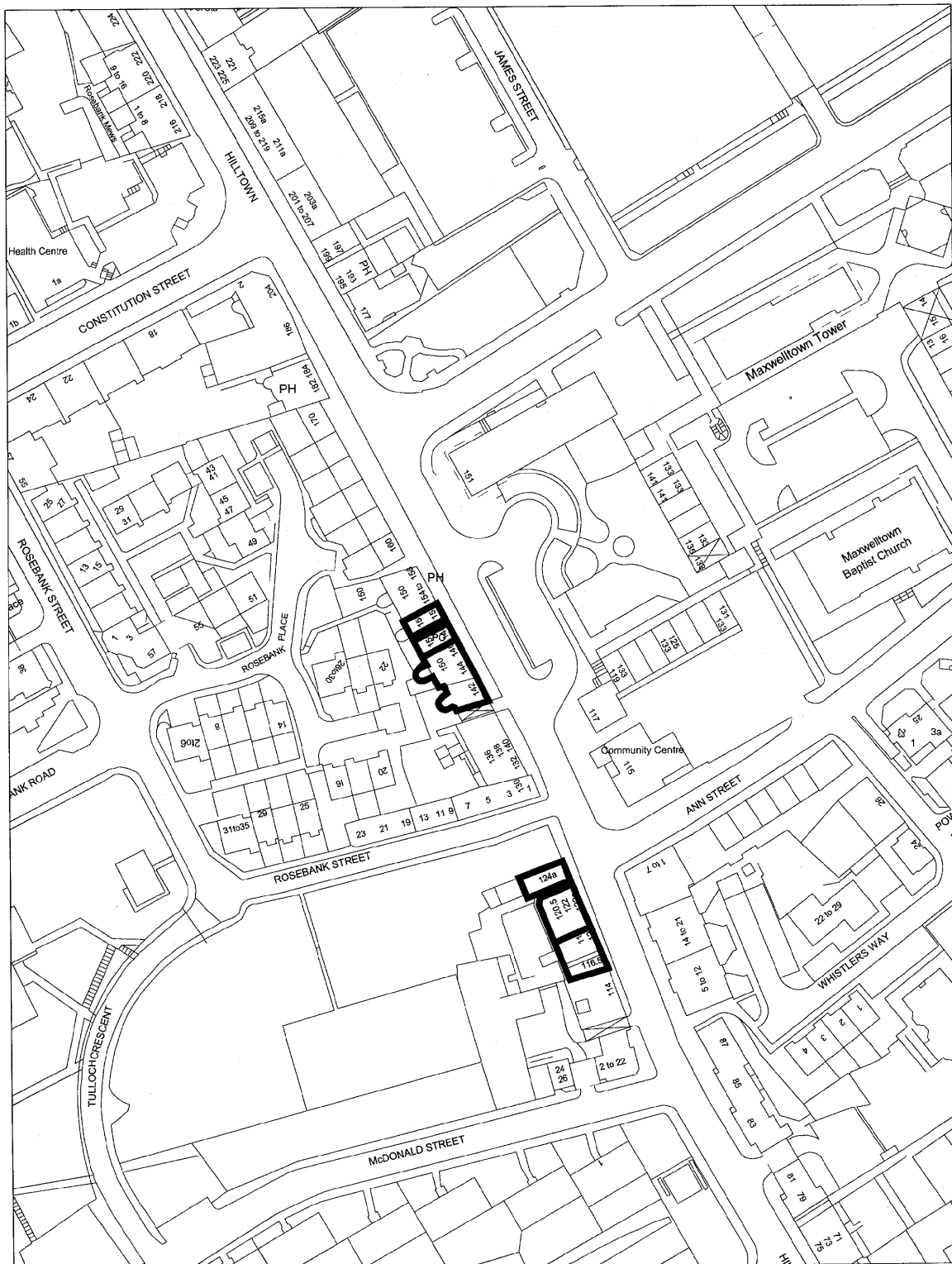
- 8.1 Minutes of Planning and Transportation Committee - August 1999.

Mike Galloway
Director of Planning & Transportation

Keith Winter
Policy & Regeneration Manager

21 January 2002

JMcG/EJ/CON/11/1/
Dundee City Council
Tayside House
Dundee



Project/Subject
Facade Enhancement Grant Scheme

Title/Address
**116, 118, 120A, 124A, 140-152 Hilltown
 Dundee**

Reference :

Drawn By :

Date :

Scale :



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