

REPORT TO: POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 10 MARCH 2003

REPORT ON: APPLICATION FOR BETTER NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES FUNDING

**REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF NEIGHBOURHOOD RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT AND
DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE PLANNING**

REPORT NO: 201/2003

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek Committee approval for the completion of the installation of white street lighting in the BNSF neighbourhoods of Kirkton and Hilltown.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee:-

- 2.1 approve the funding proposal detailed in paragraph 7 of this document.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The full cost of the proposal is £418,023 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 Plans for the targeted neighbourhoods. 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 equalising 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. A Neighbourhood Partnership has been established in each area comprising of community representatives, local elected members and service managers.
- 6.2 At the most recent meetings of each, future spending of the commissioning budget was discussed. There was unanimous support for a proposal to complete the replacement of the existing street lighting in both neighbourhoods with improved 'white' lighting.
- 6.3 This report also relates to the report to the Policy and Resources Committee meeting of 9 December 2002 in which the intention to report additional locations was intimated.

7.0 PROPOSAL **Complete the Replacement of Street Lighting in the BNSF areas of Kirkton and Hilltown.**

- 7.1 Improved street lighting has been shown to achieve reductions in both reported crime and the fear of crime and to complete the installation of improved lighting in both BNSF neighbourhoods will cost £418,023. As part of a continuing partnership arrangement with the Planning and Transportation Department this work will be undertaken by Tayside Contracts. BNSF finance is available to permit this much desired work to be undertaken during the 2003/04 financial year, a number of years earlier than would otherwise be possible.
- 7.2 Importantly, this project will impact directly on two specific BNSF outcomes contained within the Local Outcome Agreement which will be used by the Scottish Executive to evaluate the BNSF Co-ordinated Management Initiative, namely;
- reported anxiety about crime will be expected to drop by 10% per year
 - levels of recorded crime will equal that of the city average by 2004

Full details of the streets and associated costs are available on request to the BNSF Neighbourhood Services Co-ordinator.

Cost £418,023

Lead Council Department: Planning and Transportation

8.0 CONSULTATION

- 8.1 Consultation has taken place with the Chief Executive, the Directors of Finance, Support Services, Planning and Transportation, Housing, Leisure and Arts, Education, Environmental and Consumer Protection, Dundee Contract Services and the SIP Co-ordinator.
- 8.2 The elected members for both areas have been party to the development of this project as have community representatives.
- 8.3 This recommendation is based on issues raised by local communities and will contribute towards achieving 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 other background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report.

Director of Corporate Planning: *Chris Ward*

Date: *27/02/03*

Director, Neighbourhood Resources & Development: *Fraser Patrick*

Date: *27/02/03*