

REPORT TO: POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 19th May 2003

REPORT ON: APPLICATION FOR BETTER NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES FUNDING

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

REPORT NO: 349/2003

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek Committee approval for the funding of road calming measures in the West March estate which is contained within the BNSF neighbourhood of Kirkton.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee:-

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

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The estimated cost of the proposal is £40,000 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 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 dedicated commissioning budget allows the Neighbourhood Partnership to respond quickly and directly to issues raised by the community.

7.0 PROPOSAL West March Traffic Calming Scheme

7.1 This proposal is brought forward by the WEST MART residents group which represents people living in the West March area of Kirkton. Residents in Prieston Road, Balmuir Road and Thornton Road are concerned about speeding traffic and in particular of the dangers posed to children by young, aggressive drivers who routinely use the streets in this area to drive in competition with one another. While no serious accidents have occurred local people have become concerned by a number of recent near misses. This proposal was developed in conjunction with officers from the Planning & Transportation Department after other options had been explored and found to be less viable.

The planned scheme will install road humps at key sites within the designated zone to restrict continuous speed and to deter the rapid acceleration of vehicles.

7.2 This project will impact directly on the Local Outcome Agreement which will be used by the Scottish Executive to evaluate the BNSF Co-ordinated Management Initiative. It supports the theme of promoting community safety & environmental action by:

- Developing community involvement in response to safety concerns
- Localising community safety strategies
- Identifying and addressing local environmental issues

***(Estimated) Cost £40,000
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 member for this area has been party to the development of this project as have community representatives who have via an informal questionnaire, issued by BNSF staff, given an overwhelming vote in favour of the project. Details are shown in appendix one.

8.3 This recommendation will contribute towards achieving targets set out in the BNSF Local Outcome Agreement. Formal consultation with residents directly affected by this development 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.

Chris Ward

Director of Corporate Planning: _____

Date: 12/05/03_____

Stewart Murdoch

Director (Acting), Neighbourhood Resources & Development: _____

Date: 12/05/03_____

Appendix 1

Consultation on West March Traffic Calming Scheme

As part of our commitment to stakeholder involvement the Better Neighbourhood Services Team felt that it was necessary to undertake a poll of all residents affected by these proposals prior to a decision being made to recommend the financing of this scheme.

This was done by postal ballot with returns being made using prepaid envelopes.

Residents were asked to vote on whether or not to accept, in principle, the proposal to install traffic calming. They were assured that this ballot was solely for that purpose and that a formal consultation would be undertaken by the Department of Planning and Transportation should the result of the ballot demonstrate overwhelming resident support for the proposals.

Ballot Results:

182 papers delivered by hand.

84 (41%) papers were returned, signed by householders.

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|---|-----------|-------------------------------------|
| ➤ In favour of traffic calming scheme | 68 | Representing 81% of returned papers |
| ➤ Not in favour of traffic calming scheme | 16 | Representing 19% of returned papers |