

REPORT TO: POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 16 AUGUST 2004

REPORT ON: APPLICATION FOR BETTER NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES FUNDING

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

REPORT NO: 519-2004

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 This report seeks approval for funding proposals to be met from the Better Neighbourhood Services Fund.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee:

2.1 Approve the funding proposals set out in this report.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The full cost of the proposals detailed in this report are £210,000, which will be met from the extension to the Better Neighbourhood Services Fund 2004/05 allocation to Dundee City Council from the Scottish Executive.

4 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 outcome agreement approved by the Scottish Executive in response to Dundee's Better Neighbourhood Services Fund proposals.

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

5 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 BACKGROUND

6.1 The Better Neighbourhood Services Fund Co-ordinated Neighbourhood Management Initiative is focused on the two communities of Hilltown and Kirkton. To date more than £2million has been allocated for specific project investment in these two areas. The majority of that funding has been directed towards addressing community safety issues e.g. improved street lighting, CCTV, off-street car parking, road safety, shed alarms, issue of a community safety booklet to all households etc, and environmental improvements to open plan areas.

The proposals outlined in this report, if approved, would be met from the extension to the Better Neighbourhood Services Fund announced by the Scottish Executive in December 2003. Also, the proposals seek to build on previous and ongoing initiatives and will respond directly to the expressed wishes of local people.

7 FUNDING PROPOSAL

7.1 Footways and Carriageway Repairs – A recent survey has indicated a number of footways and carriageways (Hilltown Only) which require early attention. This need was also identified by local people in both Kirkton and Hilltown via a range of consultative measures undertaken by BNSF staff during the past 6 months.

7.2 The anticipated expenditure in each neighbourhood is

Kirkton Footways up to	£80,000
Hilltown Footways up to	£60,000
Hilltown Carriageways up to	£70,000
Total	£210,000

7.3 The lead DCC department for this work will be Planning and Transportation.

8 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, Dundee Contract Services, Head of Waste Management, and the SIP Co-ordinator.

8.2 The elected members for both areas have been consulted on the development of this proposal as have community representatives.

8.3 The recommendation is based on issues raised by local communities and will contribute towards achieving the targets set out in the BNSF Local Outcome Agreement. Further consultation will take place once approval to progress has been agreed.

9 BACKGROUND PAPERS

NONE

Chris Ward Assistant Chief Executive (Community Planning) Date: 4 August 2004

Stewart Murdoch Head of Communities Department Date: 4 August 2004