
To: Economy & Jobs Policy Board

On: 16 November 2016

Report by: Director of Development & Housing Services

Heading: Regeneration Capital Grant Fund – Stage 2 Applications

1. Summary

- 1.1 Two of the 4 projects submitted by Renfrewshire Council in June 2016 have been shortlisted by Scottish Government's Regeneration Capital Grant Fund. The next step in the process is for the Council to prepare and submit applications for Stage 2, following which a decision will be made by Scottish Government on the projects which have been successful in being awarded funding for the period financial year 2017/18.
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2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Board;
- (i) Approve the submission of 2 applications (itemised in this report) to Stage 2 of the Scottish Government's Regeneration Capital Grant Fund for 2017/18;
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3. Background

- 3.1. The Scottish Government have operated a competitive Regeneration Capital Grant Fund of approximately £25 million since 2014. The Government Fund is only open to local authorities or organisations which they exercise their functions through (such as Urban Regeneration Companies).
- 3.2. The Government Fund supports locally developed regeneration projects that involve local communities, helping to support and create jobs and build

sustainable communities. There are no restrictions on match funding or other sources of funding being provided alongside any grant from the Fund for specific regeneration projects.

- 3.3. The Council have made applications to the Fund previously and was successful in 2014/15 for the Russell Institute's refurbishment for which they were awarded a £2 million grant.
- 3.4. A report to Council in June 2016 outlined the details of 4 applications to be made to this year's Scottish Government Regeneration Capital Grant Fund. Two of these were in conjunction with and on behalf of partner organisations (Linwood Community Development Trust and Linstone Housing Association). As stated in the Council report both organisations agreed to enter into a formal partnership agreement to allow the Council to administer the Scottish Government funding on their behalf, should they be successful.
- 3.5. The 4 applications for the Fund were as set out below:
- **Paisley Museum** (bid for £2.0 million);
 - **Paisley Learning and Cultural Hub** (bid for £1.5 million)
 - **Mossedge Village Project, Linwood** (on behalf of the Linwood Community Development Trust; bid for £0.8 million)
 - **Belmar Court communal space, Linwood** (on behalf of Linstone Housing Association; bid for £0.35 million)
- 3.6. The Scottish Government announced in September 2016 that they had received more than 80 applications at Stage 1 and that they had shortlisted 43 applications. They informed the Council that 2 of the 4 applications had been successful in getting through to Stage 2. These were the Mossedge Village Project and the Paisley Learning and Cultural Hub.
- 3.7. The application for Paisley Museum was unsuccessful in this round however, positive feedback was given for this project, and the panel felt that this was an interesting project that could fit well with the RCGF outcomes, however there was no grant request indicated for 2017/18. The panel also noted that the project was anticipating contributions from a number of funding sources over future years and would require further information to ensure the viability of the project. The panel indicated that it would be content to receive a further application for this project for 2018/19 (subject to availability of funds).
- 3.8. This report seeks Council approval to proceed to Stage 2 applications for the two successful projects. Applications must be submitted to Scottish Government ahead of the deadline of 28 November 2016. The Government require the Council as the lead applicant for both projects to confirm in the Stage 2 application its commitment to the delivery of the projects and to meet the terms and conditions which apply to the application for Regeneration Capital Grant Funding. A condition of the Council's agreement to act as the lead applicant for the Mossedge Village Project was that if it was shortlisted to proceed to Stage 2, then the Council and Linwood Community Development

Trust would enter into a partnership agreement which would include appropriate governance and project management arrangements to manage risks associated with the Council's liabilities for project delivery. This agreement is currently being finalised and will require to be signed prior to submission of the Stage 2 application for this project.

- 3.9 Grant for both projects will be provided for project spend between April 2017 and March 2018.
- 3.10 A decision is expected from Scottish Government on the successful project awards in February 2017. The decision on available grant for the Fund is subject to the Government's Spending Review in late 2016.

Implications of the Report

1. **Financial** – Implications for both projects itemised in this report will be significant should they not be successful in receiving awards from the Scottish Government Regeneration Capital Grant fund.
2. **HR & Organisational Development** – None.
3. **Community Planning** – None.
4. **Legal** – None.
5. **Property/Assets** - None.
6. **Information Technology** - None.
7. **Equality & Human Rights** - The Recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report.
8. **Health & Safety** – None.
9. **Procurement** – None.
10. **Risk** – None.
11. **Privacy Impact** – None.

List of Background Papers

- (a) Applications for Stage 1 of RCGF (June 2016)
The foregoing background papers are available from the report's author

Author: Alasdair Morrison, Head of Regeneration
email: Alasdair.morrison@renfrewshire.gcsx.gov.uk