

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

CABINET – 6TH FEBRUARY 2008

APPROVAL OF CONTRACTOR TO CARRY OUT MOSAIC RESTORATION WORKS AT THE DICK INSTITUTE

Report by Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek Cabinet approval to appoint The Mosaic Restoration Company Limited to carry out the mosaic restoration at The Dick Institute.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 On 21st December 2006 Cabinet approved a capital budget, of £35,000 for carrying out restoration works to the mosaic floor and lighting improvements at The Dick Institute. Part of this budget allocation together with a further sum set aside from the current years capital programme will be used to fund the specialised work needed to restore the mosaic in the entrance foyer.

3. CONSIDERATION

- 3.1 Due to the specialist nature of the work involved advice regarding suitable contractors was sought from Historic Scotland, English Heritage and the Scottish Conservation Bureau. Only one company, The Mosaic Restoration Company Limited, from East Sussex, was identified as being suitable to carry out the restoration work required to the specification that meets the standards of Historic Scotland.

- 3.2 The Council's standing order relating to contracts (paragraph 20 (1)) state that:

“Where the appropriate Executive Director / Executive Head of Service / Head of Service considers that a tender should be negotiated with one person, he / she shall, before entering into negotiations, obtain the approval of the Cabinet, and of the person with whom the tender is to be negotiated, stating the reasons for the proposed negotiated procurement route.”

In these circumstances with only one company identified as capable of carrying out the necessary works to the appropriate standards, approval is sought to enter negotiations with The Mosaic Restoration Company Limited.

- 3.3 A detailed survey of the mosaic has been carried out and the estimated cost of the work involved is £40,000. This will be met from the capital sums available in 2007/08 and 2008/09. It is intended that work will commence in March and will be completed in April and the work programme will be managed to cause minimum disruption to visitors to the Dick Institute.

3.4 The Mosaic Restoration Company Limited has carried out all the mosaic floor work in Glasgow City Chambers and in major museums and public buildings across the UK. As a result of this work the floor will be taken back to its original condition and protected for future generations.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 A negotiated tender valued at an estimated £40,000 will be agreed with the contractor, this funding is available from the Capital Programme.

5. POLICY / LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The Council's standing orders in relation to contracts require Cabinet approval to be sought before tender negotiations can take place with a single contractor.

6. CONCLUSIONS

6.1 Discussions with specialist professional bodies have confirmed that The Mosaic Restoration Company Limited are the only company capable of meeting the standards appropriate for the restoration of the Dick Institute mosaic and therefore approval is requested to enter into a negotiated contract with this company.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 It is recommended that Cabinet:-

- (i) Remit to the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services and Depute Chief Executive / Executive Director of Corporate Support to negotiate an appropriate contract for the restoration of the mosaic at the Dick Institute with The Mosaic Restoration Company Limited
- (ii) and otherwise note the content of this report

William Stafford
Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services

WS/JAG/AG

23rd January 2008

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. Copy of works specification and background information on company submitted by The Mosaic Restoration Company Limited

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