

# EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

## DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE – 29 JUNE 2004

### PUBLIC TRANSPORT CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS

#### Report By Executive Director of Development and Property Services

#### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to seek the approval of the Committee to commission a consultant for the design of public transport infrastructure schemes for early implementation.

#### 2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 In August 2002, the Council was awarded a capital grant of £2.1 million for measures to improve the attractiveness of public transport in the A71 Corridor between Hurlford and Darvel; the A76 Corridor between Kilmarnock and Cumnock; and in Cumnock Town Centre. The funding was allocated over three financial years, 2003/04 - £0.3 million; 2004/05 - £0.7 million; 2005/06 - £1.1 million.
- 2.2 East Ayrshire Council has also received an allocation of £427,728 for public transport improvements through Crosshouse and on the western approach to Kilmarnock which formed part of the B7081, Western Corridor Improvements. This allocation formed part of a successful bid for Public Transport Improvements which was submitted to the Scottish Executive's Public Transport Fund by North Ayrshire Council. The programme of improvements has to be completed by the end of the 2005/06 financial year.
- 2.3 At its meeting on 21 October 2003, the Committee agreed to commission the consultant Faber Maunsell for the preparation of the first phase of final designs and site supervision for a number of early action measures which were to be implemented in 2003/04 and the early part of 2004/05.

#### 3. PRELIMINARY DESIGN AND CONSULTATION

- 3.1 Following competitive tendering, the consultant Faber Maunsell, was appointed to undertake the preliminary design and consultation for the public transport corridor measures on the A71, Kilmarnock to Darvel; the A76, Kilmarnock to Cumnock; and the B708 Western Corridor. This commission included two rounds of public consultations and workshop sessions to identify the public transport issues in each corridor, the preparation of preliminary designs and a programme of proposed public transport improvement schemes. This work has now been largely completed.

#### 4. FINAL DESIGN

- 4.1 The design and implementation of the programme of early action measures approved by the Committee in October 2003 is now nearing completion. It is proposed to commission Faber Maunsell to prepare a second phase of early action measures to avoid a delay in the implementation programme. The quotations for the design work and estimated value of the works are set out below:-

- A71 corridor, A76 corridor, Cumnock and B7081 Western Corridor
- Quoted fee for final design - £31,900
- Estimated value of the works - £429,500

- 4.2 It is proposed to appoint Faber Maunsell to carry out the final design of the schemes which will be implemented in the early months of the 2004/05 financial year for the following reasons:-
- (a) It is not possible to resource the work in-house because of the substantial workload being undertaken in the Traffic, Transportation and Safety section;
  - (b) Faber Maunsell is familiar with the Quality Public Transport Corridor works from the preliminary design and consultation which they have undertaken; and
  - (c) The appointment of Faber Maunsell will allow the design of the schemes to begin immediately and to allow the implementation programme to continue without delay. This will also allow Roads Contracts to build the work into their current programme.
- 4.3 It is proposed to invite suitably experienced consultants to tender for the remainder of the final design work to be carried out during the 2004/05 and the 2005/06 financial years.

## **5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 The appointment of Faber Maunsell as consultants, without going to tender, is in line with Standing Order 9(2) of the Councils Standing Orders, since it is considered appropriate in the circumstances to negotiate with Faber Maunsell, utilising their experience.

## **6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 The cost of commissioning Faber Maunsell to carry out the design and supervision of schemes to be implemented in the current financial year will be met from the Public Transport Fund settlements received from the Scottish Executive.

## **7. RECOMMENDATION**

- 7.1 It is recommended that the Committee agrees to the appointment of the consultant Faber Maunsell to carry out final design for a second tranche of public transport schemes to be implemented in 2004/05.

**James Lavery**  
**Executive Director of Development and Property Services**  
**7 June 2004**

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## **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

**Nil**

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