

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE: 3 MAY 2005

PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND BUILDING STANDARDS DIVISION'S CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2005-2006

Report by the Executive Director of Development and Property Services

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1** To seek Committee approval for the allocation of that part of the General Services Capital Programme 2005/06, which is to be implemented by the Planning, Development and Building Standards Division of the Department of Development and Property Services.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1** The Council at a Special Meeting held on 10 February 2005 agreed the basis for the capital allocations to each Service Committee in relation to the Financial years 2005/06 to 2007/08. The agreed operational allocation for Development & Property Services for 2005/06 is £13.57 million. The Council also agreed that Executive Directors should submit detailed Capital Programmes for the utilisation of capital allocations to their Service Committees for consideration and approval.

3. DEVELOPMENT AND PROPERTY SERVICES CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2005-2006 – PROPOSED ALLOCATIONS

- 3.1** The Planning and Building Control Division has prepared projects under the following project themes:-

- Development Projects
- Environmental Improvements
- Heritage and Tourism
- Restoring Communities Programme

- 3.2** The following are the proposed projects to be funded within each of the project themes.

3.2.1 Development Projects

- 1.1 i) Kilmarnock Town Centre Strategy, investigation of key development sites** – This strategy was proposed in paragraph 7.16 of the East Ayrshire Local Plan. The strategy once finalised and approved, will provide a framework for co-ordinated action pertaining to the development of Kilmarnock and will ultimately be a material consideration with particular regard to current and future retail and other town centre related development proposals. The potential for key sites, identified in the strategy, to accept

retail, commercial, and other development, requires to be established more fully. (See separate committee report on this agenda.)

3.2.2 Environmental Improvements

- i) **Sturrock Street/Green Street, Kilmarnock** – The intention is to continue the transformation of this area that was started utilising part of last years capital funding. This is a highly visible site on the one- way system around the town centre of Kilmarnock. The current landscaping is in a poor state of repair. Limited funding has already been sought for this project from the Environmental Initiatives budget; however, to successfully transform this area will require further additional funding.

3.2.3 Heritage and Tourism

- i) **Newmilns Townscheme / Regeneration Scheme** –The Committee previously agreed to offer small scale grants for façade treatment under the Newmilns Town Scheme as one of a series of measures brought forward to assist in the continued regeneration of Newmilns, and to build on the success of the award winning Newmilns Townscape Heritage Initiative. The project has secured continued funding from Historic Scotland as part of a Town Scheme subject to match funding from the Council. These funds will therefore lever in match funding that will enable further properties within the historic Main Street, Newmilns Outstanding Conservation Area to be improved. In addition Committee previously agreed to further develop proposals to tackle two key sites in the centre of Newmilns potentially for a Business Centre/Multi Use development and to consider opportunities for further public realm developments. This funding will be used to further develop this regeneration scheme.
- ii) **Barony “A” Frame** - The proposed regeneration of the “A” Frame site incorporates the restoration of the grade ‘B’ listed structure, floodlighting of the frame powered by renewable energy, car parking, seating area and interpretative / educational / artwork element including an oral history project. The project is being progressed by the Barony Trust, incorporating elected members, community groups and representatives of Scottish Coal. Initial funding has been secured from the Community Planning Partnership. However, this is a major capital project and will require further development funding to progress the project.
- iii) **Catrine Environmental Heritage Project** – This project is being developed with the support of Catrine Voes Trust, Catrine Environment Group, East Ayrshire Coalfield Area SIP, Historic Scotland, Scottish Natural Heritage, River Ayr Salmon Fishery Board, Scottish Wildlife Trust, and Daldorch House Autistic Society. The CEHP aims to establish and implement a range of proposals that conserve, enhance and promote the historic and environmental importance of Catrine, maximising the potential for related educational and recreational uses. One particular proposal is the restoration of three disused turbines to allow the community to generate community funds from electricity sales. A contribution has already been approved for this project from the

Community Planning Partnership budget. This proposed allocation will allow further significant funding applications to be made to external funding bodies. A constituted group based on the Catrine Voes Trust, consisting of representatives of the partner groups is currently being set up specifically to implement the project.

3.2.4 Restoring Communities Programme (RCP)

- i) **One Stop Shop, Auchinleck** – The development of a One Stop Shop in Auchinleck that will serve the East Ayrshire Coalfield Area is being progressed by the community in partnership with the Coal Industry Social Welfare Organisation (CISWO), the Council and the Community Planning Partnership. A constituted Management Group has been formed and an options appraisal report has been produced. Limited funding has been secured from the Community Planning Partnership. However this is a major capital project and will require further development funding to progress the project.
- ii) **Main Street, Auchinleck Property Improvement Scheme** – The scheme is now in its third year. It aims to implement environmental improvements to both commercial and residential properties on Main Street and Well Road, Auchinleck in partnership with the owners. Limited funding has been secured from the Community Planning Partnership. However additional funding is required to match the demand from property owners. (See separate committee report on this agenda).

3.3 The following table sets out the proposed allocations for the above projects based on consideration of the project requirements.

PLANNING DEVELOPMENT AND BUILDING STANDARDS DIVISIONS CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2005/06	£
Development Projects	
Kilmarnock Town Centre Strategy	£20,000
	£20,000
Environmental Improvements	
Implementation of an Environmental Improvement Scheme at Sturrock Street/Green Street, Kilmarnock	£20,000
	£20,000
Heritage & Tourism	
Newmilns Townscheme / Regeneration Scheme	£20,000
Barony "A" Frame	£10,000
Catrine Environmental Heritage Project	£30,000
	£60,000
Restoring Communities Programme	
Development of One Stop Shop, Auchinleck	£30,000
Main Street, Auchinleck - Property Improvement Scheme	£10,000
	£40,000
TOTAL	£140,000

4. FINANCIAL AND LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The Development and Property Services Capital Programme 2005/06 will be funded from the General Services Capital Programme 2005/06.
- 4.2 There are no direct legal implications as a result of this report.

5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The projects within the Planning, Development and Building Standards Division's Capital Programme –2005/06 will contribute to the "Improving the Environment" and "Improving Opportunities" Action Plans within the East Ayrshire Community Plan.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 **It is recommended that the Committee agree the proposed allocations identified in section 3 above.**

James Lavery
Executive Director of Development and Property Services Department

25 April 2005 (CMcK/SA)
FV-AN

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 1. Report to Policy & Resources Committee "General Services Capital Programme 2004/05 – 2006/07" – 08 February 2005
- 2. Minutes of the Special Council Meeting –10 February 2005.

For further information on the content of the report contact Colin McKee, Principal Planning Officer Policy and Projects, on 01563 576759.

Implementation Officer: Alan Neish