

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

EMERGENCY POWERS COMMITTEE – 21 MARCH 2005

QUEENS DRIVE, KILMARNOCK

Report by Executive Director of Development and Property Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1** To seek the Committee's approval for the Head of Roads and Transportation to negotiate a contract with Messrs Barr Limited to widen Queen's Drive to 4 lanes between the Bellfield Roundabout and Hurlford Road.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1** Queen's Drive is the main route into Kilmarnock from the north and east. The development of the area as a major retail and leisure centre also attracts a high volume of traffic. Congestion has become a major issue threatening future development on Queen's Drive as well as direct access to Kilmarnock town centre.
- 2.2** To address this issue, funds have been secured from developers under section 75 Agreements to improve the capacity of the junctions at Hurlford Road and Old Mill Road. East Ayrshire Council has also made provision in the Road's budget for the widening of Queen's Drive to 4 lanes between the Bellfield Roundabout and Hurlford Road.

3. THE PROPOSED CONTRACT

- 3.1** The trunk road Management Agents, Amey, have appointed Barr Limited, to carry out major reconstruction work on the Bellfield Roundabout. The works are due to commence on 29 March and last 1 month. The works also involve extensive temporary traffic management arrangements on the roundabout, including the temporary removal of the traffic island where Queen's Drive enters the roundabout .
- 3.2** This has presented an opportunity for the Council to take advantage of these temporary traffic management measures, and to avoid abortive construction works, by arranging for Barr Limited to include the widening of Queen's Drive within their Bellfield programme. The Queen's Drive scheme proposed by East Ayrshire would require similar extensive temporary traffic management measures to be put in place on the Bellfield Roundabout. There would therefore be clear benefits, in terms of public inconvenience and costs, in minimising the disruption to traffic using Bellfield Interchange and Queen's Drive, by coordinating the works in this way.
- 3.3** Barr Limited have won the Bellfield Contract after a vigorous competitive tendering process, and the Head of Roads and Transportation would seek to

negotiate a contract based on the same rates and prices that Barr have tendered to Amey for the Bellfield Contract.

4. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The Committee's approval is being sought in accordance with Section 3, Paragraph 9(2) of the Council's Standing Orders Relating to Contracts. Barr Limited would be appointed by East Ayrshire Council for the Queens Drive works under the normal contractual arrangements.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The estimated cost of the scheme is £70,000. The whole of the cost of the works would be met from the Roads Division's Revenue budget for 2005/06.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 The Committee is requested to authorise the Head of Roads and Transportation to negotiate a contract with Barr Limited for the widening of Queens Drive, to be carried out within their Bellfield Roundabout reconstruction scheme.

James Lavery
Executive Director of Development and Property Services

17 March 2005

SG/SH

BACKGROUND PAPERS - nil

For further information on the contents of this report please contact Sandy Gillatt on
01563 555734

Implementing Officer: Sandy Gillatt, Chief Engineer