

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE – 26 SEPTEMBER 2000

M77 PROGRESS UPDATE

Report By Director of Development Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To update Committee on current progress on the M77 Project.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 At a previous meeting of the Committee it was reported that the Director would hold regular meetings with the senior official from the Scottish Executive responsible for implementation of the M77 and would report back to the Committee following these meetings. This report is based on the most recent meeting held late August, together with a meeting between the Leaders of East Renfrewshire and East Ayrshire Councils.

3. PROGRAMME

- 3.1 It is anticipated that the programme will be as follows:-

- ◆ Tender documents for the scheme issued summer 2001. Final contract concluded summer 2002. Start on site autumn 2002.
- ◆ Tenders have been issued for ground investigation work. Start on site in November this year.
- ◆ All land contained in the compulsory purchase order for the M77 has now been vested to Scottish Ministers as of 1 July 2000.
- ◆ An audit of the scheme proposals is to be undertaken by Messrs Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick. The purpose of this work is to determine any modifications required to the scheme, originally drawn up almost 10 years ago, to reflect new construction and safety guidance. This report will be completed by September 2000. If, as a result of the design audit and soil investigation further land is required, supplementary compulsory purchase orders will be produced but these will not delay the programme
- ◆ A designer has now been appointed and the commission completed for the design of the replacement holes for Eastwood Golf Club. Negotiations are underway to appoint a preferred tenderer to undertake this work. These negotiations should be completed by end of this year. The greens shall be

constructed and ready for use before the start date for the road of Autumn 2002.

- ◆ Messrs Price, Waterhouse, Cooper have been appointed to undertake a cost analysis of the scheme to ensure that the Public, Private Partnership contract envisaged provides value for money. This meets a commitment by the Minister in her announcement of the project last November.
- ◆ An agency agreement and “memorandum of understanding” will be concluded shortly with East Renfrewshire Council for the preparation of the contract documents for the M77.
- ◆ To consider the improvement of Public Transport along the M77 corridor which was included in the Minister for Transport and the Environment’s announcement on the upgrading of the M77, Messrs Jayress have been appointed by the Scottish Executive to undertake a Public Transport Study. It was suggested that they should contact SPT, Railtrack and East Ayrshire Council for guidance as work on various public transport projects in this corridor has already been undertaken.
- ◆ An appropriation order is required for a small section of the existing M77 at Malletsheugh. This is a requirement to ensure the continuity of the special road status of the M77.
- ◆ The formal Trunk Road Orders have not yet been made.

4. PUBLIC LOCAL INQUIRY FOR GSO

- 4.1 The public inquiry on the linked GSO project is now scheduled for October 2000. East Ayrshire Council as an objector has been invited to be represented at this inquiry.
- 4.2 A meeting has been held between the Leaders of East Renfrewshire and East Ayrshire Councils to discuss the Councils’ mutual interests in the integrated M77/GSO project.

5. FINANCIAL AND LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no direct expenditure implications.

6. RECOMMENDATION

- 6.1 It is recommended that the Committee:
 - i) Note the progress to date on the implementation of the M77 project; and

- ii) Note that East Ayrshire Council may require to be represented at the Public Inquiry for the GSO.

Stephen Chorley
Director of Development Services

SC/JTK/YK
14 September 2000

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

Nil

For further information on the contents of this report, please contact Jim Kane on 01563 576310

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AGENDA