

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE : 6 JUNE 2000

M77 – PROGRESS UPDATE

Report by Director of Development Services

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To update the 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 responsible for implementation of the M77 and would report back to the Committee following each of these meetings. This report is based on an earlier meeting held this month.

3 PROGRAMME

3.1

- There have been no challenges to the compulsory purchase orders – the date for any challenges is now passed (this could have resulted in a hold up in the timetable).
- Tenders have been issued for a consultant to carry out a full design audit – it is expected that this will be completed in the autumn
- Ground investigation tenders being advertised for interest with the expectation that works will be carried out in the autumn
- Tenders have been received back for the reconstruction of the Eastwood golf course

3.2

It is anticipated that as a result of the design audit and site investigations further orders and land purchase may be required, but these will not delay the programme. The programme is on plan for all pre-contract work to be completed by the spring of next year. This will make it possible to enter into the tendering process for the principal design, build and finance construction project during next year. This will make it possible to start on site in the summer of 2002.

3.3

It is expected that a public inquiry on the linked Glasgow South Orbital Project will be arranged in the autumn. If the planning application is determined within six months of the inquiry it will still be possible to implement the GSO and the M77 as a single project with a site start date in 2002.

4 LIAISON ON TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT ISSUES

4.1 As a very large construction project work on the M77 will result in disruption to traffic and the potential of nuisance for residents within the area. The critical issues are likely to include:

- Traffic management on the A77 to maintain continuous flow (2 lanes in each direction)
- Formal diversions and measures to avoid informal use of alternative routes using unsuitable roads and passing through other communities including Fenwick and Stewarton
- The location of contractors' sites
- Noise and dust nuisance from the works themselves
- Requirement to take on and off site substantial quantities of material.

4.2 An early meeting will be arranged with the Scottish Executive and East Renfrewshire Council (as the Scottish Office's agent for the management of the contract) to identify potential issues more precisely and initiate pre-planning work.

5 COMMUNITY LIAISON AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

5.1 The Scottish Executive will give consideration over the summer to a programme for community liaison and public relations including exhibitions in appropriate communities. This will be linked closely to the pre-planning work relating to traffic management and other issues noted above.

6 FINANCIAL AND LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no immediate financial or legal implications arising from this report.

7 RECOMMENDATION

7.1 It is recommended that the Committee note the progress to date on the implementation of the M77 project.

Stephen Chorley
Director of Development Services
24 May 2000
SC/JR

BACKGROUND PAPERS
Nil

For further information on the contents of this report, please contact Stephen Chorley, Director of Development Services, on 01563 576011.

AGENDA