

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE – 13 MARCH 2002

M77 PROGRESS UPDATE

Report By Director of Development Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To advise the Committee on current progress on the M77 project.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Periodic updates have been provided to the Committee on progress in implementation of the M77 project based on discussions with the senior official of the Scottish Executive responsible for the programme.

3. CONTRACT DOCUMENT ISSUE

- 3.1 Contract documents for the final design and construction of the M77 Malletsheugh to Kilmarnock Trunk Road and the Glasgow Southern Orbital Route were issued on 1 February 2002 to three consortia.
- 3.2 Documents are due to be returned to the Scottish Executive on 31 July 2002.
- 3.3 Thereafter, it is anticipated that the contract will be awarded to the successful consortium during late 2002 with a construction start Spring 2003 and completion during 2005.

4. ADDITIONAL ISSUES

- 4.1 All supplementary Road Orders to cater for the inclusion of the G.S.O. Interchange within the M77 Trunk Road have now been completed.
- 4.2 Minor amendments to the design to accommodate current road safety standards have been undertaken as have amendments to the road drainage design to comply with SEPA requirements,
- 4.3 The extra land required for these alterations is subject of current negotiations, but should not prove to be problematic.
- 4.4 The new areas required by Eastwood Golf Club have been completed.

5. PUBLIC TRANSPORT CORRIDOR STUDY

- 5.1** The study for options for enhancing public transport within the Ayrshire to Glasgow corridor is ongoing.
- 5.2** In the Strategic Rail Authority's, Strategic Plan published in January 2002 there is support, subject to value for money tests, for the improvement of capacity on the Kilmarnock-Glasgow Central rail line to enable the establishment of a half-hourly service with the expected completion date 2004-2005.

6. LIAISON ON CONTRACT ARRANGEMENTS

- 6.1** The Scottish Executive intend to liaise with the local community organisations and the local roads authority prior to the contract starting in order to minimise disruption to traffic and nuisance to residents within the area.

7. MOTORWAY SERVICE AREA AT KINGSWELL JUNCTION

- 7.1** It is understood that no final decision has yet been taken by the Scottish Executive on whether or not to construct the two south facing slip roads at the Kingswell Junction on the M77.
- 7.2** The slip roads are still included in the Road Orders but could yet be deleted.
- 7.3** Discussions are ongoing with the Motorway Service Area developer.
- 7.4** The Council has previously advised the Scottish Executive that in its view a fully articulated junction should be installed.

8. FINANCIAL & LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1** There are no immediate financial or legal implications arising from this report.

9. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1** The completion of the M77 is a central policy within the Council's economic and transportation programmes.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1** It is recommended that the Committee note the progress on the implementation of the M77 project.

Stephen Chorley
Director of Development Services

25 February 2002
JTK/YK

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Nil

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

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AGENDA