

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE – 7 MAY 2002

CONDUIT RELOCATION

Report by Director of Development Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1** The purpose of this report is to inform the Committee of the relocation of the CONDUIT premises within Dalmellington.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1** The CONDUIT Intermediate Labour Market Training Programme which developed originally from the Dalmellington IT project is currently based within Doon Academy, Dalmellington; New Cumnock Community Centre and Stagecoach WestScotland Training Centre, Kilmarnock. The project provides administration and ICT skills training to SVQ Level II and successfully trains over 30 long term unemployed persons per annum.
- 2.2** Currently 14 trainees and staff are based within Doon Academy but recently, the Department of Education and Social Services has found it necessary to increase the numbers of students attending the Academy and therefore require to restore the CONDUIT training facility to its original school use.
- 2.3** It has, therefore, become necessary to identify suitable premises within Dalmellington in order to relocate the CONDUIT programme.

3. CURRENT POSITION

- 3.1** During 2001 East Ayrshire Council and its partners carried out major refurbishment works to the industrial units at Main Street, Dalmellington creating a new Area Centre and a Business Technology Training Centre. Currently, Unit 2 (area 500ft²) which adjoins the Business Technology Training Centre is unoccupied and unfurnished.
- 3.2** Due to the urgency of the situation, the CONDUIT project has been temporarily located from Monday 22 April 2002 within the old Local Office at 1 New Street, Dalmellington. However, this arrangement must terminate by 21 June 2002 as the property is currently under offer of purchase.
- 3.3** It is proposed that Unit 2 of the Area Centre in Dalmellington is converted to permanently accommodate the CONDUIT project thereby combining CONDUIT with the Business Technology Training Centre and further enhancing the ICT facility provision within Dalmellington.

3.4 It is anticipated that the costs associated with the refurbishment of Unit 2 will be in the region of £40,000. It is further anticipated that contributions towards the costs will be met in the following manner:-

(i)	East Ayrshire Council (E & SS)	£5,000
(ii)	East Ayrshire Employment Initiative	£5,000
(iii)	East Ayrshire Council (DEVS)	£5,000
(iv)	Coalfield Area SIP	£5,000
(v)	Scottish Enterprise Ayrshire	<u>£20,000</u>
		<u>£40,000</u>

East Ayrshire Council's Homes and Technical Services will manage the refurbishment works on behalf of CONDUIT.

4 POLICY/PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS – Nil.

5 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The additional leasing cost of £1,500 per annum will be met within CONDUIT's current budget and the Council contribution towards the cost of the refurbishment will be met from within existing budgetary resources.

6 RECOMMENDATION

6.1 It is recommended that the Committee note the contents of the report concerning the relocation of the CONDUIT Dalmellington Base.

Stephen Chorley
Director of Development Services

TM/MB
19/4/02

BACKGROUND PAPERS

NIL

For further information, please contact Tom Merry, Senior Project Officer (Tel: 01563 554611).

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AGENDA