

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE – 7 MAY 2002

SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE RELOCATION POLICY

Report by Director of Development Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 The purpose of the Report is to inform the committee of:

- a) the organisations currently invited by the Scottish Executive to review their locations as part of the Scottish Executive Relocation Policy and,
- b) the preparation of a corporate response to the Relocation Review by the three Ayrshire Councils through the auspices of the Ayrshire Economic Forum.

2. SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE RELOCATION POLICY – CURRENT ROUND

2.1 In February, 2002 the Scottish Executive wrote to the Chief Executives of the Local authorities and Enterprise Companies regarding the Scottish Executive Relocation Policy:-

- (a) Informing them that a number of Government bodies had been invited to undertake reviews of their current locations
- (b) Inviting them to submit information on potential locations for each of those bodies.

The bodies concerned are:-

- **Common Services Agency for the NHS in Scotland.** 1100 staff. 15,400 square metres office space. An announcement on location is expected mid 2002.
- **Health Board for Scotland.** 65-140 staff. 1500-1900 square metres office space. An announcement on location is expected during 2002.
- **Scottish Natural Heritage.** 260 staff. @3640 square metres office space. An announcement on location is expected mid 2002.
- **Sportscotland.** 133 staff. 2548 square metres office space. An announcement on location is expected by the end of 2002.

In addition, it is understood that the relocation of Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education is likely to be included in the next annual trawl. An announcement on location is expected mid 2003.

3. THE AYRSHIRE RESPONSE

3.1 The Ayrshire Economic Forum agreed that the Ayrshire Authorities should prepare a corporate bid co-ordinated by the Ayrshire Location Service.

Following consultation a short list of potential sites for each of the three Ayrshire authorities was identified and agreed. Detailed information, consistent with the set criteria of the Scottish Executive, was gathered for each site and a corporate bid prepared and submitted. Within East Ayrshire the following sites have been promoted: -

- Kilmarnock Town Centre
- Rowallan Business Park
- Caponacre, Cumnock

The time scale of the proposed relocations is such that it is anticipated that the needs of the bodies concerned can be met through new build facilities which will not create a problem from a supply point of view.

3.2 A copy of the full submission can be obtained from the Head of Economic Development.

4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The sites identified are consistent with the planning policies of the Council.

5. FINANCIAL/LEGAL/PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no financial/legal/personnel implications at present.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 That the Committee:-

- (1) Note the terms of this Report; and
- (2) Approve the actions taken regarding the preparation and submission of a corporate response to the Scottish Executive Relocation Policy.

Stephen Chorley
Director of Development Services

SC/DAH/PM
29 April 2002

BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. Scottish Executive Relocation Policy – Bid by Ayrshire Economic Forum.

For further information please contact Robert Paton, Head of Economic Development on Ext. 6142 or David Hewet, Senior Policy Adviser on Ext 4608

Implementation Officer: Robert Paton, Head of Economic Development

AGENDA