

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE – 17 DECEMBER 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 PREFERRED BIDDER APPOINTMENT

- 3.1 Three consortia were invited to tender for the joint Public Private Partnership (PPP) project on 1 February 2002 and tenders were returned on 31 July 2002. The preferred bidder was announced on 29 November 2002. The successful consortia was Connect which includes Balfour Beatty Capital Projects Limited and Atkins Investments.

- 3.2 The appointment of the Connect consortium means that work is on schedule to begin construction on site by the end of March next year. On current programme work on the M77 and the Glasgow Southern Orbital should be complete and the roads open to traffic by the end of March 2005.

- 3.3 The joint PPP is for the construction, together with the operation and maintenance over a period of 30 years of the M77 and the Glasgow Southern Orbital together with a new junction on the A726. The project includes the modification and realignment of the existing A77 to provide an all purpose road for non-motorway traffic, as well as facilities for pedestrians and cyclists.

4 LIAISON ON CONTRACT ARRANGEMENTS

- 4.1 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.

5 MOTORWAY SERVICE AREA AT KINGSWELL

- 5.1 It is understood that the Scottish Executive have taken the decision after lengthy discussions with the Motorway Service Area developer not to include the two south facing slip roads at the Kingswell Junction on the M77 within the PPP contract. These slip roads are however still included in the Road Orders. The

north facing slip roads are included in the scheme to cater for traffic travelling to and from Glasgow from the Irvine Valley.

- 5.2** The Motorway Service Area developer will now have to negotiate with the Scottish Executive and the Preferred Bidder if he wishes these slip roads constructed.

6. FINANCIAL & LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

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

7. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

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

8 RECOMMENDATIONS

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

Stephen Chorley
Director of Development Services

JTK/YK
9 December 2002

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

Nil

For further background information please contact Jim Kane on 01563 576310

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