

## **EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**

**DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE – 21 OCTOBER 2003**

### **PUBLIC TRANSPORT FUND: KILMARNOCK TO ARDROSSAN PUBLIC TRANSPORT CORRIDOR**

#### **Report by the Director of Development Services**

#### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1** The purpose of the report is to seek the approval of the Committee to appoint a consultant for the design and site supervision of public transport infrastructure schemes to be implemented in the current financial year and the early months of the next financial year.

#### **2 BACKGROUND**

- 2.1** At its meeting on 17 December, 2002, the Committee noted that, following a successful application to round five of the Scottish Executive's Public Transport Fund in August 2002, the Council has been awarded a capital grant of £2,100,000 for measures to improve the attractiveness of public transport in East Ayrshire. The funding is allocated over three years 2003/2004 - £0.3m; 2004/2005 - £1.1m; 2005/2006 - £0.7m and will be used for the following:-

- Quality bus corridor improvements in the A71 Irvine Valley Corridor between Kilmarnock and Darvel.
- Quality bus corridor improvements in the A76 corridor between Kilmarnock and Cumnock.
- Measures in Cumnock to improve bus facilities and enhance pedestrian and cycle linkages in the town.

- 2.2** The Committee was also advised that North Ayrshire Council has submitted a successful bid for quality public transport improvements between Ardrossan and Kilmarnock. The East Ayrshire section of the route through Crosshouse and the Western approach to Kilmarnock was included in the bid. The value of the works in East Ayrshire is £427,728. In discussion with officials of North Ayrshire Council, it has been agreed that the expenditure target for East Ayrshire Council will be £181,000 in the current financial year with the balance being incurred in 2004/05 and 2005/06.

### **3 PRELIMINARY DESIGN AND CONSULTATION**

**3.1** The Council has appointed the specialist transportation consultant, Faber Maunsell, to undertake the preliminary design and consultation for the public transport corridor measures on the A71 Kilmarnock – Darvel, the A76 Kilmarnock – Cumnock and the B7081 Western Corridor. Initial public consultations have taken place to obtain the local communities views on the issues pertaining to public transport usage. Workshop sessions and further public consultations are programmed to take place before the end of the year on specific proposals.

**3.2** The feedback from the consultations will be taken into account when finalising the proposals which are likely, where possible, to include measures to:-

- Improve pedestrian links between public transport and important community facilities such as schools, shops and places of work;
- Improve bus stops, shelters and timetable information;
- Enhance the pedestrian environment;
- Give priority to public transport;
- Improve facilities for cyclists and taxis;
- Introduce traffic management measures to ease traffic flows, improve road safety and enhance access for local businesses;
- Improve safety and personal security for pedestrians on footways and at crossing points; and
- Improve the ease of access for the mobility and visually impaired.

### **4 FINAL DESIGN**

**4.1** The Council now needs to progress the final design of early action measures which have to be implemented in the current financial year and early part of next financial year, to comply with the budgetary targets set out in paragraphs 2.1 and 2.2 above.

**4.2** Quotations have been submitted by Faber Maunsell for the preparation of final designs and site supervision for the early action measures. The quotations and the estimated value of work to be designed are set out below:-

- (a) A71 Corridor, A76 Corridor, Cumnock:-  
Quoted fee for final design and supervision - £37,525  
(estimated value of the works - £557,500)
- (b) B7081 Western Corridor:-  
Quoted fee for final design and supervision - £14,200  
(estimated value of the works - £164,500)

**4.3** It is proposed to appoint Faber Maunsell to carry out the final design and site supervision of schemes to be implemented in 2003/2004 because:

- (a) it is not possible to resource the work in house, because of the substantial workload being undertaken in the Traffic, Transportation and Safety Section;
- (b) Faber Maunsell are familiar with the Quality Public Transport Corridor works from the preliminary design and consultation which they are undertaking; and
- (c) The appointment of Faber Maunsell will allow the design of the schemes which are to be implemented in 2003/04 to commence immediately.

## **5 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

**5.1** Nil

## **6 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

**6.1** The cost of commissioning Faber Maunsell to carry out the design and supervision of schemes to be implemented in the current financial year and early next financial year will be met from The Public Transport Fund settlements received from the Scottish Executive.

## **7 RECOMMENDATION**

**7.1** It is recommended that the Committee agrees to the appointment of the consultant Faber Maunsell to carry out final design and site supervision for the public transport schemes to be implemented in 2003/2004 which are to be funded from the fifth round of The Public Transport Fund.

**Stephen Chorley**  
**Director of Development Services**  
**6 October 2003**  
**KC/YK**

## **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

**Nil**

For further information please contact Kerr Chalmers on 01563 555715

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