

# **EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**

## **POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

**20<sup>th</sup> February 2003**

### **MODERNISING GOVERNMENT FUND (MGF2)**

#### **Report by Depute Chief Executive / Director of Corporate Resources**

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

**1.1** To advise Committee on the outcome of the Councils' bids for funding under the second round of the Scottish Executive's Modernising Government Fund (MGF2), and to seek Committee authority to accept a Scottish Executive Offer of Award.

#### **2. BACKGROUND**

**2.1** At its meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2002, Policy and Resources Committee agreed to the submission of an Outline Bid to the MGF2 Fund for an information and communications technology (ICT) project in support of the Council's objectives in respect of modernising government and electronic government.

**2.2** Committee also agreed to participate in a further three Consortia led bids in respect of the development of a Master Address Database for the Council, the development of a Single Shared Assessment for Care for the Elderly, and the implementation of a Dialogue Youth / Young Persons Smart Card.

**2.3** For approved projects, MGF2 will contribute up to 75 % of the project costs. Successful bidders are therefore expected to meet at least 25 % of the cost of each project from within their own resources.

**2.4** Details of phased nature of the MGF2 Bidding Process, was reported to Policy and Resources Committee on at its meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2003, and it was agreed that a report would be presented to a future meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee advising Members of the outcome of the Council's Bids when this was known.

**2.5** Committee also agreed at the meeting on 28 November 2002 to the Council's involvement with Dialogue Youth and to seek a proportion of match funding from Community Planning Partners. Also that the Directors of Educational and Social Services and of Community Services fund part of the Council's contribution from their respective budgets.

### **3. SUBMITTED BIDS**

**3.1** During the phased Bidding Process, the Executive strongly advised applicants, that in order to improve their chance of success, they should seek to develop joint-partnerships with others who were aiming to achieve similar objectives, and that the benefits to be derived from such partnerships should be clearly outlined within the Bids.

**3.2** In response to the Executive's guidance in respect of partnership working, the four original Bids that were submitted for consideration for funding were, where appropriate, re-worked to incorporate, and highlight the benefits of, partnership working with other public bodies. The four re-worked Bids are summarised as follows;

3.2.1 A joint twenty-one Council Consortium Bid, including £ 732,000 of funding for East Ayrshire Council, was submitted for the development of data standards to facilitate data sharing between the Council's departmental systems, and develop / provide secure and authenticated access to information and services through Call Centre technology and the Council's Internet Web site. This Bid is broadly defined as proposed Customer Relationship Management (CRM) project.

3.2.2 A joint thirty Council COSLA led Consortium Bid, including £ 60,000 of funding for East Ayrshire Council, was submitted for the development of individual Master Address Databases (MAD) within Councils which, once implemented, will remove barriers to data sharing between individual Council systems, and between individual Councils and across the public sector, and will complement the development of a national MAD. This Bid is broadly defined as proposed Land and Property project.

3.2.3 A joint South Ayrshire Council and A&AHB Bid for £ 446,000 for the development of a Single Shared Assessment for Care of the Elderly, which, once implemented, will provide the single point of entry to community care for the elderly population, and provide a person-centred and needs-led process through which more effective outcomes can be achieved. This Bid is broadly defined as proposed e.Care project.

3.2.4 A joint thirty-two Council COSLA led Consortium Bid, which incorporated two separate funding options one of which sought £ 128,691 of MGF2 funding for East Ayrshire Council, was submitted for the implementation of the Dialogue Youth / Young Persons Smartcard which, once implemented, will provide a platform from which a young person's version of a citizen account / smartcard can be developed to facilitate and improve access to information and services focussed towards young people.

### **4. OUTCOME OF BIDDING PROCESS**

**4.1** The Scottish Executive has announced that each of the Council's four Bids for funding to MGF2 have been approved, and consequently has issued an "Offer of an Award from the Modernising Government Fund" to the Council.

**4.2** In announcing the outcome of the bidding process, the Executive has indicated that successful bids will be categorised on the basis of the following five main programmes of work;

- Dialogue Youth
- CRM (Customer Relationship Management)
- Land and Property
- e.Care
- ScotXed (Scottish Exchange of Educational Data)

**4.3** The Executive has also announced its intention to establish individual Project Steering Boards and to appoint Programme Managers for each of the five main programmes of work.

**4.4** Once appointed, the Programme Managers will report directly to the Central / Local 21<sup>st</sup> Century Government Forum (CLGF), and will oversee local projects which will be delivered by individual grant recipients working in consortium based partnerships to achieve common objectives.

**4.5** In accordance with the Executive's requirement for a common cross-departmental single point of contact, it is proposed that the Councils' Head of Information Technology fulfil the role of MGF2 co-ordinator on behalf of the Council.

## **5. ALLOCATION OF FUNDING**

**5.1** The allocation of approved MGF2 funding as it affects the Council is summarised as follows;

5.1.1 The total value to the Council in 2002/03 and 2003/04 in respect of approved MGF2 funding for the roll-out of the Dialogue Youth / Young Persons Smartcard is **£ 128,691**.

5.1.2 The total value to the Council in 2002/03 and 2003/04 in respect of approved MGF2 funding for the proposed CRM project is **£ 700,000**.

5.1.3 The total value to the Council in 2002/03 and 2003/04 in respect of approved MGF2 funding for the proposed Land and Property project is **£ 60,000**.

**5.2** In addition, the Council has also been awarded **£ 27,725** in 2002/03 and 2003/04 under the Scottish Executive Education Department (SEED) administered Scottish Exchange of Educational Data (ScotXed) project which seeks to establish a strategic infrastructure and protocols for the consistent management, transfer and sharing of educational data.

**5.3** The Executive also indicated that additional and separate funding will be announced at a later date to fund a "National e.Care Programme" which includes the proposed joint East Ayrshire Council, South Ayrshire Council and A&AHB Consortium development of a Single Shared Assessment for Care of the Elderly. The Director of Educational and Social Services has confirmed that the required match funding can be met from existing Social Work budgets.

**5.4** In summary, The Scottish Executive has issued an “Offer of an Award from the Modernising Government Fund” to the Council up to a maximum amount of **£ 916,416** within the 2002/03 and 2003/04 financial years, to fund specific ICT projects in respect of the aforementioned MGF2 programmes.

**5.5** The Scottish Executive has indicated that transfer of allocated funding will be facilitated through the Revenue Support Grant (RSG) commencing with an initial payment to cover anticipated project start-up costs. Use of the RSG will provide flexibility allowing, in the event of project slippage, the carry forward of revenue balance to subsequent financial years.

## **6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

**6.1** The requirement for 25 % matched Council contribution in respect of the MGF2 Grants will be met from appropriate project funding contained within the 2002/03 and 2003/04 Capital Programmes (IT Requirements), and relevant Departmental Revenue Budgets as appropriate.

**6.2** It is anticipated that any resulting Revenue costs can be met from within current provisions through a re-alignment of existing budget provision.

## **7. LEGAL / POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

**7.1** The project is consistent with the Councils core value of access, will contribute significantly to the Council addressing requirements to deliver, where appropriate, electronic access to services, and will play a major part in delivering social inclusion across East Ayrshire.

## **8. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that Policy and Resources Committee:

- i) note the Council’s success in securing MGF2 funding for ICT related projects and accept the offer of grant as outlined in Section 5 of this report,
- ii) note that a further report will be presented to a future meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee advising Members of progress in respect of delivering project objectives,
- iii) note that the Director of Educational and Social Services has indicated the required match funding is available for the delivery of e-care related projects in accordance with the Council’s revised bid for e-care funding as indicated in section 5.3 of the report,

- iv) agree to the Council's Head of Information Technology fulfilling the role of MGF2 co-ordinator on behalf of the Council and,
- v) otherwise note the contents of this report.

Fiona Lees  
Depute Chief Executive / Director of Corporate Resources  
29 January 2003

### **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

1. Bidding Guidance for Outline Project Proposals, 21<sup>st</sup> Government Unit, Scottish Executive, dated December 2001.
2. Guidance on preparing a Fully Worked-up Bid and Summary of Outcomes of the MGF Bidding Process, 21<sup>st</sup> Government Unit, Scottish Executive, dated June 2002.
3. Scottish Executive Letter to Chief Executive dated 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2003 containing an "Offer of Award from the Modernising Government Fund".

To inspect the background papers in relation to this report or for further information on this Report, please contact Malcolm Roulston,  
Head of Information Technology (Tel : 01563 576809).

**Implementation officer: Malcolm Roulston, Head of Information Technology**

AMR / 29<sup>th</sup> January 2003