

EX47. SPEND TO SAVE PROPOSALS

The Executive considered a report by the Chief Finance Officer detailing 3 projects identified by Services for inclusion within the Council's Spend to Save programme together with a proposal by Falkirk Community Trust.

Council had set aside £2m in December 2012 for 'Spend to Save' projects and a further £1.5m in June 2013. To date four schemes had been approved. Details were given of a further 3 schemes identified by Services; Central Park lease buyout; Refreshing the Teaching Profession and Street Lighting; together with a proposal by Falkirk Community Trust to develop a health and fitness suite. Details of the required funding, annual saving together with the anticipated payback period were provided for each project. The report invited the Executive to consider the Refreshing the Teaching Profession, Street Lighting and Trust proposals and confirmed that a further report on the lease buyout proposed would be considered later in the agenda.

A business case had been provided by the Falkirk Community Trust in respect of its proposal and formed an appendix to the report. The Executive agreed that the business case contained exempt information as defined in paragraph 6 of Part 1 of Schedule 7 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 and resolved that, to the extent that there required to be discussion on the detail contained therein, it would be taken in private, and the document would not be available to the press or public.

Councillor D Goldie left the meeting at this point..

Having regard to the submission by the Trust, Councillors Gow and Nicol each declared a non-financial interest in the item as Directors of the Trust, but did not consider that this required them to recuse themselves from consideration of it, having had regard to the objective test in the Code of Conduct and the relevant specific exclusion contained in the Code.

Decision

The Executive:-

- 1) continued consideration of the Spend to Save proposal put forward by Falkirk Community Trust to establish a health and fitness suite pending the submission of further detail;
- 2) noted that the proposed Central Boulevard lease proposal would be considered later in the agenda; and
- 3) agreed the inclusion of the Refreshing the Profession and Street Lighting projects as part of the Spend to Save proposals.