

EX142. SUSTRANS COMMUNITY LINKS FUNDING APPLICATIONS

The Executive considered a report by the Director of Development Services (a) advising of bids made to the SUSTRANS cycling charity, (b) seeking authority to continue the bid process and to seek match funding for any approved bids and (c) seeking approval for the acquisition of land where required to deliver the projects.

The Council had been invited to bid for funding for community links projects by the SUSTRANS cycling charity. The deadline for bids for the funding, which was split into two categories (projects under £1m and projects over £1m) was 14 February 2014. Following consultation with the portfolio holder for the Environment, 9 bids had been made.

In the event that any bid is successful, match funding will be required. In most instances, that will include Council funding which has been reserved within the relevant capital and revenue budgets. It may also include applications to external funding bodies.

A table detailing each bid, highlighting the total cost, the contribution sought from SUSTRANS and potential sources of match funding, was presented.

Decision

The Executive:-

- (1) approved the bids to the SUSTRANS Community Links funding stream set out in the report and, following notification of successful applications, authorised officers to seek match funding from appropriate sources;**
- (2) agreed that, if any of the bids to SUSTRANS are unsuccessful, officers be authorised to continue with these projects, as approved resources allow, including seeking match funding;**
- (3) agreed, subject to the Chief Finance Officer being satisfied that funds for acquisition are available, to authorise the Director of Development Services and the Chief Governance Officer to enter into negotiations and thereafter conclude a bargain for the acquisition of land or rights of access necessary for the projects listed in the report (irrespective of success in the current round of bidding), with each of the transactions being at a purchase price considered satisfactory to the Director of Development Services; and**
- (4) agreed, in principle, to the promotion of Compulsory Purchase Orders under the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 or the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003, as appropriate, subject to a further report to the Executive on the outcome of negotiations.**