

EX23. GRANGEMOUTH ENERGY & INVESTMENT PROJECT – UPDATE

The Executive considered a report by the Director of Development Services providing an update on the Grangemouth Energy Project and advising of a proposal for investment.

The Executive agreed, on 13 January 2015 (ref EX109) to examine the potential development of an energy related project to deliver substantial energy cost savings to the Grangemouth Industrial Complex and wider area through the development of a district heating scheme. The report summarised progress to date. Mace consultants were appointed to develop a business case for the Scottish Government led project. The report also set out a proposal to progress a connection to the national power grid and set out the costs and benefits to the Council.

Proposals to establish a dedicated investment fund were set out. It was intended that the fund would attract supporting finance from the EU and both the public and private sectors and would be directed towards supporting investment in real estate development, energy projects, infrastructure projects and Council-led asset initiatives.

Decision

The Executive:-

- (1) noted the progress of the Grangemouth Energy Project and the development of an investment fund model for Falkirk and Grangemouth;**
- (2) agreed to progress an application for a grid connection via National Grid to assist delivery of the Grangemouth energy network at a cost to the Council of up to £40,000 and subject to an agreement in suitable terms with Silva Renewables and Scottish Enterprise;**
- (3) agreed to proceed with development of a business case for an investment fund in liaison with partners at a cost of £20,000, and**
- (4) requested that officers report back in due course, recommending the next step.**