

EX135. Grangemouth Energy Project Update

The Executive considered an progress report by the Director of Development Services on the Grangemouth Energy Project.

The Executive had agreed on 15 March 2016 (ref EX102) to progress an energy project for the Grangemouth area which would deliver energy cost savings to the industrial complex and potentially to the wider area through the development of a district heating scheme.

A business case, commissioned by the Scottish Government in liaison with Council and Scottish Enterprise was prepared by Atkins, consulting engineers. The business case suggested that Council consider the requisition of energy for its buildings from the district heating network and identified 3 scenarios for this:-

- full “day one” build out across both Eastern and Western network areas;
- begin with key “hubs” and build out over the project lifespan; and
- develop standalone Eastern and Western schemes.

A summary of the advantages and disadvantages of each option was provided. The study highlighted the benefits in the Council using its purchasing powers to obtain lower carbon heat solutions to help prime the development of district heating networks. It was proposed that further consideration of the options is taken forward as part of the Investment Zone initiative.

Decision

The Executive:-

- (1) noted the updated position of the Grangemouth Energy Project development work;**
- (2) agreed the inclusion of the next stage of the Energy Project work within the proposed Investment Zone initiative; and**
- (3) agreed to investigate the potential use of the Council’s purchasing powers for low carbon energy supplies as a means of enabling delivery of a district heating network the area.**