

**Report To: Environment and Regeneration  
Committee**

**Date: 16 January 2020**

**Report By: Corporate Director, Environment,  
Regeneration and Resources**

**Report No: E&R/20/01/05/SJ**

**Contact Officer: Stuart Jamieson**

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**Subject: Conservation Grant**

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## **1.0 PURPOSE**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek Committee approval for the terms associated with the Conservation Grant.

## **2.0 SUMMARY**

- 2.1 As part of the 2019/20 budget setting process £80,000 was allocated for the inception of a conservation grant. This report seeks to establish the eligibility criteria for the said grant.
- 2.2 It is proposed that the grant should be used to support the conservation of buildings within the eight conservation areas within Inverclyde, namely Cathcart Square/William Street, Greenock; Greenock West End; Inverkip; Gourock West Bay; Gourock Kempock Street/Shore Street; The Cross, Kilmacolm; Kilmacolm South East; and Quarrier's Homes.
- 2.3 The grant will be offered for the conservation of historic buildings pre-dating 1950.
- 2.4 The grants shall be made available for the uses identified in paragraph 4.5 to a maximum contribution of 25% or £7,500, whichever is the lesser figure, and will be paid on receipt of final contractor invoice.

## **3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 It is recommended that Committee agrees to the terms of the Conservation Grant set out in the body of the report.

**Scott Allan, Corporate Director  
Environment, Regeneration and Resources**

## 4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Conservation of Inverclyde's historic buildings is a key factor in the image of the urban realm.
- 4.2 As part of the 2019/20 budget setting process a fund of £80,000 was set aside to promote a conservation grant scheme.
- 4.3 It is proposed that the said scheme be limited to the eight conservation areas listed in paragraph 2.2 and to buildings constructed prior to 1950. The grant shall be used for repairs on the structure or to the exterior of the building.
- 4.4 The repairs have to use the same traditional materials, craft skills and construction techniques as found in the original building. Acceptable materials might include stone, lime, slate, iron, lead, other metals and timber.
- 4.5 Typical projects supported by grants might include:
- essential structural repairs
  - comprehensive roof repairs/replacement
  - repair of chimneys
  - repair or replacement of rainwater gutters
  - repair of stonework
  - repair of historic boundary walls or garden structures
  - repair of external joinery/windows (including double glazing)
  - repair of historic external metalwork
- 4.6 Work that cannot be assisted includes alterations and additions; projects that have already started; use of modern materials such as GRP or cement mortars; artificial and substitute materials or techniques; chemical treatments; stone cleaning; interior repair; routine maintenance, such as clearing gutters, fixing slipped slates or localised repointing.
- 4.7 The grant will be administered by the Regeneration and Planning Service and will require three quotations for interventions of up to 25% or £7500, whichever is the lesser figure.

## 5.0 IMPLICATIONS

### Finance

- 5.1 The financial implications associated with this report are set out below

#### Financial implications

##### One-off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Year	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments
n/a	Conservation	2019/21	80	n/a	n/a

##### Annually recurring costs/(savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Year	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments
n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

## **Legal**

5.2 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

## **Human Resources**

5.3 There are no personnel issues associated with this report.

## **Equalities and diversity**

5.4 There are no equality issues associated with this report.

## **Repopulation**

5.5 The report supports our repopulation agenda.

## **6.0 CONSULTATIONS**

6.1 Appropriate consultation has been undertaken with Legal and Property and Finance

## **7.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

7.1 None.