

Report To:	Regeneration Committee	Date:	29 October 2009
Report By:	Corporate Director - Regeneration and Resources	Report No:	RC/09/10/04/SJ/SL
Contact Officer:	Stuart Jamieson	Contact No:	01475 715555
Subject:	Inverclyde Construction Plus		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to apprise members in regard to the current position regarding the development of Inverclyde Construction Plus.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 Following successful pilot activity of a community benefits from construction programme, Inverclyde Council has played a lead role in establishing the local Construction Plus Partnership to secure employment and training opportunities for the community arising from large scale construction projects. In June 2009 this partnership was formally signed up to by all partners including Inverclyde Council, Riverclyde Homes, Riverside Inverclyde, Inverclyde Community Development Trust, James Watt College, Skills Development Scotland, Jobcentre Plus and Action for Children.
- 2.2 Inverclyde Council has established community benefit requirements in the school contracts. To date, 20 local unemployed people have obtained jobs. As previously reported, the significant phase of labour requirements for the schools contracts will arise in 2010 when additional apprenticeships and posts will become available including 15 apprenticeships, 33 General Building Operative posts plus a range of other training and work experience opportunities for the local community over the next four years. The apprentices will be across a range of skills including 3 Bricklayers, 3 Joiners, 3 Electricians, 2 Plumbers, 2 Painter & Decorators and 2 in associated professional trades.
- 2.3 Community Benefit clauses will also be introduced to the Strategic Leisure Sites following detailed discussions with all design teams.
- 2.4 Community Benefits requirements have been a key element of the River Clyde Homes new build programme, with the commencement over the next six months of the building of new homes at Woodhall, Oronsay and Moray Road. This will be completed by Lovell and will incorporate 14 apprenticeships across a range of trades as well as 45 new construction jobs, over the duration of the contract. A further 12 posts have been made available by Waites for their cladding programme and will these be recruited in November 2009.
- 2.5 Riverside Inverclyde continue to show commitment to this activity through the appointment of Neil Lochiel as their Implementation Manager.
- 2.6 Inverclyde Community Development Trust as the Single Point of Contact and with funding through the Fairer Scotland Fund have supported the process and worked with other training providers to ensure skilled workers are available. They monitor individuals through the Hanlon client tracking system and currently have 418 registered construction workers from Inverclyde.

2.7 This is set against a backdrop of an economic recession, when the construction industry generally is under severe pressure. Since January 2009, 21 'laid off apprentices' have been registered with support agencies and efforts made to support them back into work, including Inverclyde Council who are in the process of recruiting 2 joiners.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 The Committee is recommended to:

Note the update on Inverclyde Construction Plus.

Stuart Jamieson
Head of Economic and Social Regeneration

4.0 Implications

4.1 Financial Implications – One off Costs

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

Financial Implications – Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	None

5.0 Consultations

5.1 Consultations regarding the Inverclyde Construction Plus partnership and this report have included

Inverclyde Council – Legal

Inverclyde Council – Procurement and Central Purchasing

Inverclyde Council – Education and Social Work

Riverside Inverclyde

Riverclyde Homes

Partner Agencies