

Report To:	Safe, Sustainable Communities Committee	Date:	30 August 2011
Report By:	Corporate Director Regeneration & Environment	Report No:	R&E/R&P/SSC/08/11/CC001
Contact Officer:	Stuart W. Jamieson	Contact No:	2402
Subject:	Area Renewal and the Inverclyde Green Network – Case Studies		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To seek Committee approval of the proposal to extend the recently completed study “Area Renewal and the Inverclyde Green Network” by carrying out five case studies, utilising external funding provided by the Central Scotland Green Network.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 In July 2011 the Central Scotland Green Network offered funding of £35,100 to commission five case studies suggested in the Area Renewal and the Inverclyde Green Network document. This work is of a specialist nature, and will necessitate the use of consultants not on the Standing Restricted List.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 That the Committee:

1. welcome the award of £35,100 of Central Scotland Green Network funding, and approve its use to carry out the five case studies highlighted in the main Study; and
2. delegate authority to the Corporate Director Regeneration & Environment to issue tenders to the firms identified in paragraph 5.2 of this report, and, in consultation with the Head of Legal and Democratic Services and the Chief Financial Officer, accept the most economically advantageous tender.

Aubrey Fawcett
Corporate Director Regeneration & Environment

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 In February 2011 the final approved version of the “Area Renewal and the Inverclyde Green Network” document by ERZ Ltd was delivered to the Regeneration and Planning Service, who were acting as lead contact on behalf of a client group comprising Inverclyde Council, Riverside Inverclyde, River Clyde Homes and the Glasgow and Clyde Valley Green Network Partnership (GCVGNP). Each of the partners mentioned contributed £8,000 towards a total cost of £32,000, with the Inverclyde Council contribution being approved by Committee to come from the Cleaner Greener Safer Stronger budget.
- 4.2 The resulting document is highly innovative and has been very well received by the partners and the membership of the GCVGNP. It has been submitted for the Landscape Institute annual excellence awards by the commissioned consultant, with approval of the client group.
- 4.3 In recommending future actions, the study highlighted five potential case studies appropriate for more detailed study. These comprise three strategic links from waterfront to inland routes, from Central Greenock, Cartsburn and central Port Glasgow, and the concept of two neighbourhood parks in the Strone area and upper Port Glasgow.

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5.0 PROPOSALS

- 5.1 A bid to the Central Scotland Green Network for funding to carry out these case studies has been successful, with £35,100 being awarded.
- 5.2 It is proposed to issue tenders to the following firms:
- EDAW, Norloch House, 26 King’s Stables Road, Edinburgh, EH1 2EU;
 - Halcrow Group Ltd, 16 Abercromby Place, Edinburgh, EH3 6LB;
 - Ironside Farrar, New Gayfield Chambers, 12 Gayfield Square, Edinburgh, EH1 3NX;
 - Land Use Consultants, 37 Otago Street, Glasgow, G12 8JJ; and
 - ERZ Ltd, 6 Aird’s Lane, Glasgow, G1 5HU.

Financial Information

- 5.3 External funding of £35,100 has been secured from the Central Scotland Green Network to facilitate these five case studies. There will be no financial cost to Inverclyde Council in carrying out these case studies, and a consultant experienced in masterplanning will be engaged to carry out the work.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 **Legal:** approval will allow the use of consultants not currently included on the approved contractors list.
- 6.2 **Finance:** none

Financial implications – one-off costs. None

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) None

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

6.3 **Personnel:** none.

6.4 **Equalities:** when delivering services to our customers, full cognisance is taken of equality and diversity processes and procedures.

7.0 CONSULTATION

7.1 **Finance:** no requirement to comment.

7.2 **Legal:** no requirement to comment.

7.3 **Procurement:** advice has been sought from Procurement Officers and, further to their advice, the works will be competitively tendered.

7.4 **External Funding Group:** the chair of the group has been informed of this proposed project and has confirmed, in principle, it fits with the criteria for external funding.

7.5 **Partnership:** consideration will be given to the composition and need for any external partner representation on the client team.

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 The final approved version of the “Area Renewal and the Inverclyde Green Network” document by ERZ Ltd is available in hard copy from the Regeneration and Planning Service (contact Charlie Cairns, Lower Clyde Greenspace Manager).

8.2 Members may also note that the findings of this study have been incorporated in the recently published Inverclyde Local Development Plan: Main Issues Report (May 2011), approved for public consultation at the last May 2011 Committee. It is included in the MIR as main issue number 9 ‘Green Network and Area Renewal’ (pp 42-45) and can be found on the Planning and Environment page of the Council’s web site.