

CARS Contract Acceptance – Rothesay and Dunoon

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to ask Members to approve the Historic Environment Scotland Offer of Grant in relation to two Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS) grant awards of £1,002,348 in respect of Dunoon, and £500,000 in respect of Rothesay, awarded to the council on 9th February 2017.
- 1.2 The CARS awards will be distributed to third parties by way of grant in order to support property owners make comprehensive repairs to their buildings and shopfronts.
- 1.3 The Dunoon CARS project would commence on Council acceptance of the contract, however, the Rothesay CARS award is predicated on a successful Townscape Heritage (TH) award from Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF). If successful, the Rothesay CARS award would therefore form part of a wider funding package. A submission in this respect was made to HLF on 2nd March 2017, for £1,888,500.
- 1.4 This report requests that Members delegate authority to the Chief Executive of the council to sign the contracts with Historic Environment Scotland.
- 1.5 In relation to Dunoon, acceptance of the grant offer and relevant conditions will enable drawdown of funds, and allow Dunoon CARS to commence.
- 1.6 By signing the Rothesay contract, Council is agreeing to the condition that the project will form part of a wider TH project, and therefore to the requirement for a successful award from HLF before the project can commence.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That Council agrees to the Historic Environment Scotland Offers of Grant and delegates authority to the Chief Executive to sign and agree the terms with HES in respect to two CARS awards for, Dunoon and Rothesay.

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3.0 INTRODUCTION

- 3.1 The purpose of this report is to request that Members approve the Historic Environment Scotland (HES) Offers of Grant, following two successful Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS) bids for £1,002,348 and £500,000 in relation to Dunoon and Rothesay respectively.
- 3.2 The funds are to be used to administer a CARS project in the town centre of each town over a five-year period. This report therefore requests that Members formally accept these grant awards, agree to the associated terms and conditions, and agree to delegate authority to the Chief Executive to sign the contracts on behalf of Argyll and Bute Council.
- 3.3 Once signed, the grant conditions will have been accepted and the Dunoon CARS project will be able to commence. The project would run from April 2017 until April 2022.
- 3.4 By signing the Rothesay CARS Offer of Grant, Council is agreeing to this project forming part of a wider heritage-led regeneration project, and is therefore predicated on a successful award from Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF). A decision in this respect is anticipated in summer 2017. If successful, the Rothesay CARS/TH would run from autumn 2017 until 2022.

4.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 That Council agrees to the Historic Environment Scotland Offers of Grant and delegates authority to the Chief Executive to sign and agree the terms with HES in respect to two CARS awards for, Dunoon and Rothesay.

5.0 DETAIL

- 5.1 At the Council meeting of 30 June 2016, members agreed to two submissions to HES for CARS funding in respect to Dunoon and Rothesay. It was also agreed that a financial commitment from the council of £0.5M be made in order to support the Dunoon CARS project over a five-year delivery period, between April 2017 and April 2022.

- 7.4 HR Funding from HES includes a contribution towards a dedicated Dunoon CARS Project Officer. This post will sit within Projects and Regeneration and will be recruited to manage and deliver the five-year project.
- 7.5 Equalities No equal opportunities implications.
- 7.6 Risk As Rothesay CARS is predicated on a successful TH application to HLF, there is a risk that this project may not commence should the TH bid prove unsuccessful.
- 7.7 Customer Services Working with local people

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