

15th December 2010

Argyll and Bute CPP European Funding Package – Progress Report

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1** The purpose of this report is to update the CPP Management Committee on progress with the projects in the CPP European Funding Package.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

The CPP Management Committee is requested to note the contents of this report.

3. PROGRESS REPORT

- 3.1** There are currently six projects in total in the Argyll and Bute CPP European Funding Package, progress on each project is outlined below:

Tarbert Pier Upgrade

Following the submission of the Stage 2 application a number of ineligible costs were identified with the project. In addition, HIPP has deemed the project to be a transport project which means that the maximum intervention the project can receive is 25% of total eligible costs. It is important to note that Tarbert Harbour Authority will have to submit a new Stage 2 application to HIPP based on the revisions to the project and based on a grant intervention rate of 25%.

Therefore the profile for the Tarbert Pier Upgrade is now as follows:

Total Project Costs	£114,750.00
Grant Rate	25%
Grant Requested	£28,687.50

Therefore, in principle, there is currently an under-spend of circa £40,000 in the overall CPP European Funding Package which may potentially offer scope for the Jura Passenger Ferry to be included within the CPP European Funding Package (Please refer to paragraph 4.1 for more detail).

The Old School - Campbeltown

Led by the Kintyre Amenity Trust (KAT), the project is due to commence on site during February 2011. The Stage 1 application has been approved and the first draft of the Stage 2 has been reviewed by the European Team. The team would wish to conduct a final check on the Stage 2 application prior to its submission to HIPP. Confirmation of match funding is expected shortly.

The Atlantic Islands Centre – Luing

The Isle of Luing Community Trust is awaiting the outcome of the planning application for the proposed Atlantic Islands Centre. The planning decision is expected on 15th December 2010. The Trust has been in recent contact with the Council's European Team seeking advice on the European application process. As with all projects within the CPP European Funding Package the Council's European Team will provide assistance through the European application process.

The Town Hall - Campbeltown

The consultant team has completed an interim business case on possible sustainable future uses for the building. This included:

- extensive stakeholder consultation (including a community drop in event)
- a detailed needs analysis; and
- an option appraisal including an assessment of each option's viability – including the potential to attract external funding and a consideration of the technical and operational risks.

Two organisations have recently expressed an interest in taking over the responsibility for the building. Detailed discussions are now taking place involving both organisations and it is hoped that a delivery vehicle can be identified in the near future. It is anticipated that the development phase would commence thereafter.

The Court House – Campbeltown

An options appraisal has been completed that identified several viable uses. There is still a degree of uncertainty over ownership but steps are being taken to resolve this matter. Argyll and Bute Council is working with two separate organisations who have expressed an interest in acquiring ownership of the building with a view to carrying out a full refurbishment. It is anticipated that further

information will be available within the next month or two. This will be reported as appropriate to the CPP Management Committee.

HUBBUS

Submission of the application for the HUBBUS Employability project has been further delayed due to the change of Government at a UK level in May and is now effectively on hold until there is more clarity on the UK Government's new Work Programme. A further update will be provided to the CPP Management Committee in the next Progress Report.

4. POTENTIAL PROJECTS FOR INCLUSION IN THE CPP EUROPEAN FUNDING PACKAGE

- 4.1 The European Team is currently investigating the financial viability of the Jura Passenger ferry for potential inclusion in the CPP European Funding Package and will report back to the next CPP Management Committee meeting.

5. CONCLUSION

- 5.1 This report provides an update for the CPP Management Committee on the progress of the European Funding Package.

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