

ITEM No ...7.....

REPORT TO: NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES COMMITTEE – 24 APRIL 2017
REPORT ON: COMMUNITY GROWING
REPORT BY: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES
REPORT NO. 150-2017

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To request Committee approval for the construction of a community growing garden at Whorterbank, Lochee and the erection of Community Space at Robertson Street Community Growing Garden. A copy of the location map for the Whorterbank Community Growing Garden area has been passed to the Group Leaders and to the Conservative, Liberal Democrat and Independent Members.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that approval be given for the projects below:

Project Reference Project Description	Contractor	Tender Amount	Fees & Other Costs	Total Amount
Whorterbank Community Garden	Neighbourhood Services	£59,100	£7,700	£66,800
Community Space at Robertson Street Garden	Neighbourhood Services	£53,182	£2,500	£55,682

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The Executive Director of Corporate Services advises that the above costs will be met from the allowances for Parks and Open Spaces within the Recreation, Culture and Arts and Heritage section of the General Services Capital Plan 2017-22. This expenditure will be partly offset by a one-off capital grant contribution of £50,000 from Auegan.

4. MAIN TEXT

4.1 Reference is made to Article IV of the minute of the Environment Committee meeting of 20th May, 2013 which approved the establishment of a Community Allotment Officer post and the development of Community Allotment Pilot Projects (report 195-2013).

4.2 Since the approval of the report the Community Allotment Officer has established three pilot projects in the community regeneration areas of Lochee, Ardler and Douglas. A further project is currently underway in Maryfield at Robertson Street. This proposal is an extension of these pilot projects. All Community Allotment projects contribute to Recommendation 56 in the Fairness Commission's report – A Fair Way to Go (2016).

4.3 Whorterbank

4.3.1 The Phoenix Tenants' Association identified Whorterbank as a suitable site in terms of its environmental and social attributes. It is targeted at a densely-populated urban regeneration area where residents lack growing space; for the last two years The Tattie Patch, a pilot scheme in the area has been very successful with children from the One Parent Families Scotland Group growing food for themselves and distributions to local people.

4.3.2 Extensive consultation has taken place in collaboration with the Tenant Participation Officer and Lochee Regeneration Forum. Leafleting and the pilot scheme have generated interest

from local individuals and organisations such as Dundee Healthy Living Initiative, the Lochee Men's Shed, Lochee Community Gardeners etc.

4.3.3 The location is an underused swathe of open space. The design takes into account the aspect and tree cover, biodiversity and the current access route across the site. The final plan has been generated with community collaboration.

4.3.4 The capital build will provide the infrastructure necessary to facilitate community growing in this space, paving the way for a constituted group to take on responsibility for the area.

4.4 Robertson Street Community Garden

4.4.1 Reference is made to Article IV of the minute of the Neighbourhood Services Committee of 14th November 2015 which approved the construction of the Robertson Street Community Growing Garden (Report 352-2016)

4.4.2 Since this approval was given, the Garden has attracted grant funding of £50,000 for the erection of a community space. The proposal is to purchase and install a portable building purchased from Portakabin Ltd at the site that will also be fitted with photovoltaic panels which will generate electricity to offset any future energy costs.

4.4.3 Governance of the Robertson Street Community Growing Garden will be developed with plot holders by the Community Allotment Officer. The Portakabin will facilitate the development of the group by providing a meeting / activity space on the site of the Growing Garden.

5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

5.1 This report has been screened for any policy implications in respect of Sustainability, Strategic Environmental Assessment, Anti-Poverty, Equality Impact Assessment and Risk Management. There are no major issues.

5.2 This project has been initiated in response to the Fairness Commission Report's priority 56 to establish community gardens in areas of deprivation and as an extension of the Community Allotments Pilot scheme mentioned above.

6. CONSULTATIONS

6.1 The Council Management Team have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 A Fair Way to Go – Dundee Fairness Commission report.

Elaine Zwirlein
Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services

Gary Robertson
Head of Environment

11 April 2017

<u>CLIENT</u>	<u>NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES</u>	<u>NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES</u>
PROJECT NUMBER PROJECT PROJECT INFORMATION	Whorterbank Community Growing Garden To establish a community growing garden in the Lochee Community Regeneration Area	Robertson Street Community Growing Garden To erect a community space
ESTIMATED START DATE COMPLETION DATE	30/06/17 30/09/17	30/06/17 30/09/17
TOTAL COST	Works £59,100 Professional Fees £7,700 Total £66,800	Several Works £53,182 Professional Fees £ 2,500 Total £55,682
FUNDING SOURCE	Capital – allowances for Parks and Opens Spaces within the Recreation, Culture and Arts and Heritage section of the General Services Capital Plan 2017-22.	Capital - allowances for Parks and Open Spaces within the Recreation and Arts and Heritage section of the General Services Capital Plan 2017-22
BUDGET PROVISION & PHASING	2017/2018 £66,800	2016/17 £5,682 2017/18 £50,000 Total £55,682
ADDITIONAL FUNDING	None	Augean Grant Fund £50,000
REVENUE IMPLICATIONS	None.	Any revenue costs will be contained within existing budgets.
POLICY IMPLICATIONS	Part fulfilment of Fairness Commission report Priority 56	Part fulfilment of Fairness Commission report Priority 56
TENDERS	Negotiated project <u>Contractor</u> Neighbourhood Services £59,100	Negotiated Project <u>Contractor</u> Neighbourhood Services £53,182
RECOMMENDATION	Acceptance of offer	Acceptance of Offer
ALLOWANCES	Professional Services £7,700	Professional Services £2,500
SUB CONTRACTOR	None	None
BACKGROUND PAPERS	A Fair Way to Go – Dundee Fairness Commission report	A Fair Way to Go – Dundee Fairness Commission report

