

**REPORT TO:** EDUCATION COMMITTEE – 23 AUGUST 2004  
**REPORT ON:** DUNDEE SCHOOLS PPP PROJECT – PROGRESS REPORT  
**REPORT BY:** CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION  
**REPORT NO:** 527-2004

## **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the current status of the Dundee Schools PPP Project.

## **2.0 RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to note that tender documents have been issued to Precept Project Management Ltd and Robertson Capital Projects Ltd.

## **3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1 None

## **4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 None

## **5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 None

## **6.0 BACKGROUND**

- 6.1 The Education Committee of 15 March 2004 delegated the responsibility for progressing the project to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the PPP Project Board.

- 6.2 The tasks delegated include:

- selecting the bidders to be invited to bid for the project;
- approving the issue of the tender documents;
- agreeing the criteria for evaluating tenders;
- overseeing the evaluation of the tenders once received;
- inviting and overseeing the evaluation of Best and Final Offers if these are deemed necessary; and
- selecting the preferred bidder to be recommended to the Education and Policy & Resources Committees.

## **7.0 PROCUREMENT PROCESS**

- 7.1 The Contract Notice inviting interest from potential bidders was published in the Official Journal of the European Union on 23 March 2004 with a closing date for return of submissions of 27 April 2004.
- 7.2 Two consortia expressed an interest in tendering for the project, the Lead Applicants being

Precept Project Management Ltd and Robertson Capital Projects Ltd.

- 7.3 The submissions were subjected to detailed assessment by officers of the Project Team and the project external advisers, Grant Thornton, Shepherd & Wedderburn and Turner & Townsend to determine whether:
- Applicants and members of the Applicants' consortia had been properly identified;
  - Applicants are eligible to tender for the project;
  - Applicants and their consortia members meet the Council's minimum standards of economic and financial standing to carry out the project;
  - Applicants' funding proposals are acceptable; and
  - from a technical perspective, Applicants should be able to carry out the project.
- 7.4 The Project Team/Adviser conclusions and recommendations were considered by a Technical Evaluation Sub-Group and an Executive Evaluation Sub-Group of the Project Board on 19 May 2004 and 15 June 2004 respectively, before being reported to a full meeting of the Project Board on 29 June 2004 at which it was confirmed that Precept Project Management Ltd and Robertson Capital Projects Ltd should be invited to submit tenders (issued with an Invitation to Negotiate) for the Dundee Schools PPP Project.
- 7.5 In parallel with the task of selecting bidders for the project, the tender documentation was finalised by the officers of the Project Team assisted by the project external advisers and made available for scrutiny by the members of the Project Board and other elected members of the Council before being submitted for review by Partnerships UK (PUK) on behalf of the Scottish Executive to confirm that the project was sufficiently developed to proceed to market.
- 7.6 At the meeting of the Project Board on 29 June 2004 a representative of the Scottish Executive confirmed that they were happy for the tender documents to be issued to bidders. The Project Board also confirmed that the documents should be issued as soon as practicable ie. once final editing was completed.
- 7.7 The tender documents were subsequently issued to the bidders on Friday 16 July 2004 with the tenders due for return by Friday 26 November 2004.

## **8.0 CONCLUSION**

- 8.1 Tender documents were issued to Precept Project Management Ltd and Robertson Capital Projects Ltd on 16 July 2004 and the tenders are due for return by 26 November 2004.
- 8.2 The Committee will be kept apprised as to future progress.

## **9.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 9.1 None

**ALEX STEPHEN**  
Chief Executive

**ANNE WILSON**  
Director of Education

29 July 2004