REPORT TO: PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE -

27 JANUARY 2003

REPORT ON: CITY CENTRE FAÇADE ENHANCEMENT GRANT SCHEME AND

HILLTOWN FAÇADE ENHANCEMENT GRANT SCHEME

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION

REPORT NO: 20-2003

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To advise Committee as to the progress being made in implementing the Façade Enhancement Grant Scheme (FEGS) in the City Centre and Hilltown.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 That Committee agree to the following grants in the City Centre and Hilltown.

а	Grays Close	£16,000
b	Baxters Court (Cowgate)	£27,500
С	37 Union Street	£5,000
d	122 Hilltown	£8,595
е	142 Hilltown	£6,460
	Total	£ <u>63,555</u>

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The total cost of the FEGS are estimated at £63,555. These costs will be met from the Planning & Transportation Department Capital Budget for 2002/03.

4 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 By the successful renovation and installation of public art gates in important City Centre buildings, the distinctive architectural character of the City Centre will be retained and will assist in addressing the following key theme of Dundee 21:

"Places, spaces and objects combine meaning and beauty with utility".

By introducing a façade scheme to Hilltown, the theme of Dundee 21 "Diversity and local distinctiveness are valued and protected", is encouraged.

5 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 All accesses constructed will enable disabled persons access to the properties wherever possible.

6 BACKGROUND

6.1 Grays Close – This close forms the main access to Gardyne's Land. Committee will recall that the Tayside Building Preservation Trust is currently involved in renovating this medieval property into a youth hostel. The first phase of these works has been completed. Adjacent to this building, the grant scheme has funded two public art gates at Croons & Campbell closes. These have been well received by the local business community. It is proposed that an

individually designed gate for Grays Close be commissioned through the Dundee Public Art Programme. The FEGS over the past few years has contributed to the following adjacent buildings being renovated - H Samuel and the former Timpson shoe shop. Photographs of this area will be on display at Committee.

- 6.2 Baxters Close Committee will recall that during last financial year a grant was offered to improve the property at 37-41 Cowgate. This has seen the refurbishment of six flats and one shop. The pend gate, which serves the residential properties, is of a rather utilitarian design. It is considered appropriate to install a public art gate at this location, as Cowgate forms a major pedestrian route from the east into the city centre. Several grants have been awarded adjacent to this property. Rainbow music in Cowgate and the public bar and residential block at Cowgate/King Street. A drawing of the proposed gates is available at Committee.
- 6.3 37 Union Street To date, eight grants have been awarded to properties in Union Street. Currently this property is used as a Solicitor's property shop. The proposal is to install a more in-keeping shop front in this category 'B' listed building.
- 6.4 122 Hilltown Committee will recall that last financial year four grants were given to improve the quality of the Hilltown frontage. An application has been received for the last of a run of shops to be improved. The proposal is to match the adjoining shops. Photographs of the improved shops adjacent to 122 Hilltown will be available at Committee.
- 6.5 142 Hilltown An application has been received from the Dundee Public Art Programme to install a gate at this property. It will replace an existing gate, which is poorly designed. The new gates will compliment the new shop fronts, which were installed two years ago under FEGS. A computer-generated image of the gates will be available at Committee.
- 6.6 All the necessary planning and listed building consents are in place.

7 CONSULTATIONS

7.1 The Chief Executive, Director of Finance, Director of Support Services, Director of Corporate Planning, Director of Neighbourhood Resources and Development and Scottish Enterprise Tayside, have been consulted and are in agreement with the contents of this report.

8 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 8.1 Item 3 of Minutes of Planning Committee (CDDC) City Centre Façade Enhancement Grant Scheme, June 1994.
- 8.2 Item 9 of Minutes of the Planning & Transportation Committee, 30 April 2001.

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IJ/JMcG/EJ 17 January 2003

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