

DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE - 25 JUNE 2012

REPORT ON: NATIONAL PERFORMANCE CENTRE for SPORT in DUNDEE - APPOINTMENT of ECONOMIC CONSULTANTS

REPORT BY: CHIEF EXECUTIVE

REPORT NO: 260-2012

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To obtain committee approval to appoint a consultant to assist in the economic assessment and business model development for the City Council's bid for the National Performance Centre to be established in Dundee.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee approves:

- 2.1 the expenditure of up to £30,000 on the appointment of external consultants to provide specialist expertise not available in the City Council or the other partners.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The expenditure of up to £30,000 on external consultants can be met from the Chief Executives Department revenue budget.

4.0 MAIN TEXT

- 4.1 Reference is made to the Policy & Resources Committee of 28 November 2011 agenda item IV National Football Academy in Dundee. It was agreed at this committee, to take full advantage of the potential to site the National Indoor Football Centre and attached Football Academy in Dundee, that a Steering Group be established, chaired by the Chief Executive.
- 4.2 Since this committee report Dundee's steering group has started to meet as well as various sub groups to discuss the bid. Also the Scottish Government has set up a national steering group lead by the Scottish Football Association with project consultants appointed. They have now moved it forward to be Scotland's National Performance Centre for Sport with a £25m budget from the Scottish Government.
- 4.3 At a briefing session by the Scottish Football Association, on the 15 May 2012 at Hampden Park, Glasgow, it was made clear that the business model for the centre would be a critical part of any bid submission.
- 4.4 The investment in the appointment of external consultants will enable Dundee's bid to utilise specialist expertise as required, with independent advice to avoid any "optimum bias" and enable further scrutiny of the financial and business case for the proposal.
- 4.5 A brief for the appointment of the consultants will be developed which will include the following element;
- Identification of sustainable funding options
 - Options on the model in terms of revenue sources and facilities required i.e. feasibility of conference facility and other key commercial elements

- Identification of added value which can be built into the business plan for other non-football related communities both other sports and more generally
- Large Corporate sponsorship opportunities/targets and approach
- Financial projections based on experience from other similar facilities
- Identification of the level of excellence required and comparisons with other centres of excellence.
- The requirement to balance the needs of the National Performance Centre for Sports and its facilities and services with a business plan which ensures that funding can be sustainable and life cycle maintenance/replacement also incorporated.

5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 This report has been screened for any policy implications in respect of Sustainability, Strategic Environmental Assessment, Anti-Poverty, and Risk Management.
- 5.2 An Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out and will be available on the Council Web Site <http://www.dundee.gov.uk/equanddiv/equimpact/>.

6. CONSULTATION

- 6.1 The Director of Corporate Services, Head of Democratic and Legal Services, Director of City Development and Director, Leisure and Communities have been consulted on this report and are in agreement with its contents.

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE
18 JUNE 2012