REPORT TO: PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE - 26 JUNE 2000

REPORT ON: CITY CENTRE FACADES ENHANCEMENT GRANT SCHEME

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION

REPORT NO: 351/2000

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To bring to Committee attention the further uptake of grant under FEGS.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 Committee is asked to award the following grants:

а	24-26 Exchange Street	£8,625
b	1-3 King Street	£46,400
С	6 Queens Buildings	£3,000
d	7 Queens Buildings	£3,000

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The total cost of awarding these grants is estimated at £61,025. Provision for this will require to be made from within the Planning & Transportation Department's 2000/2001 Capital Estimates for the Façade Enhancement Grants Scheme, subject to the availability of resources.

The grants recommended can be met from these sums.

4 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 By the successful renovation of 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.

5 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 When facade enhancement involves forming new accesses these will be constructed to enable disabled persons access to the properties wherever possible.

6 BACKGROUND

6.1 24-26 Exchange Street is a Category "B" listed building. It is situated in one of the targeted FEGS areas of the city centre. The current owners intend to convert the upper floors into residential use as part of the empty homes initiative (which was approved by Committee on the 22 May 2000) and form two shops on the ground floor. The proposed designs are compatible within this building. A 75% grant of approved works is recommended.

- 6.2 1-3 King Street is a Category "B" listed building. This very prominent four storey building occupies a large corner site at the junction of King Street and Cowgate. The property comprises a commercial ground floor, currently occupied by a public house, and six upper floor flats over a further three storeys. The state of the external fabric is poor. The owner of the flats intends to upgrade his properties, the cost of internal upgrading will be approximately £100,000. The proposed external works will involve stone repair and renewal of defective windows and rainwater goods. A paint scheme, similar to the ones used on the former Royal Hotel and H Samuel's, is proposed. It is considered appropriate that this large gateway building be restored to an acceptable standard, as it forms a principal entry point to the city centre from the northeast. Due to the scale of the project, occupying two street elevations and a commercial ground floor, a multiple grant of three is recommended. A 75% grant of approved costs is recommended. Planning and Listed Building Consent has been applied for.
- 6.3 6 & 7 Queen Buildings, a Category "B" listed building are the last two commercial properties which make up the Queens Hotel complex requiring improvement. Committee will recall that a facade enhancement grant of £27,000 was offered and taken up by the owners of the hotel during financial year 1998-1999. These two applications, if approved, will complete the restoration of the Queens Hotel complex. This proposal will also further enhance the cultural quarter of the city. A 75% grant of the approved costs is recommended for both applicants. 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 and Scottish Enterprise Tayside have been consulted and are in agreement with the contents of this report.

8 BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 Minutes of Planning Committee June 1994 - Item 3 refers.

Mike Galloway Director of Planning & Transportation

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JMcG/KM/CON/11/1

9 June 2000

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