

REPORT TO: Recess Sub Committee - 11 July 2005

REPORT ON: Communities Department - Dundee Environmental Mapping Initiative (Demi) - Establishment of a Fixed Term Post

REPORT BY: Head of Communities and Assistant Chief Executive (Management)

REPORT NO: 435-2005

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To establish a fixed-term part time post of Community Development Worker for a one year period to deliver the Dundee Environmental Mapping initiative (DEMi).

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

2.2 The Committee is asked to agree to support the Sustain Dundee DEMi project and approve the establishment of a part time (18 hours per week) post of Community Development Worker, grade CEW, £17,853 - £23,058, for a period of one year.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The project will be funded by a £20,500 Scottish Executive 'Sustainable Action Grant', the costs of which are broken down in Appendix 1.

3.2 The Council will provide an in-kind contribution of £4000, which comprises line management costs, office accommodation, administration officer support-

4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Implementation of this project will result in a positive contribution to many of the Local Agenda 21 themes. In particular, it will have a major impact on the following themes: 'all sections of the community are empowered to participate in decision-making'; 'access to the skills, knowledge and information needed to enable everyone to play a full part in society'; and 'diversity and local distinctiveness are valued and protected'.

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 None

6.0 BACKGROUND

- 6.1 Sustain Dundee is a charitable company which supports local projects that make a positive contribution towards sustainable development. It is closely linked to the Local Community Planning process in Dundee, in that it represents the funding arm of the Dundee Partnership for the Environment (DPE) community planning sub-group. Together, both organisations aim to build upon good practice throughout the city in the pursuit of sustainable development and social justice agendas.
- 6.2 On behalf of DPE, Sustain Dundee applied to the Scottish Executive's Sustainable Action Grant fund and was successfully awarded £20,500 to undertake the Dundee Environmental Mapping Initiative (DEMi). This is one of only six initiatives awarded funding in 2005.
- 6.3 Through the Local Community Planning process, DEMi aims to engage the city's priority regeneration communities to provide them with the capacity to participate in decisions which affect the quality of their environment and help address local environmental justice issues.
- 6.4 The project will specifically target the environmental issues arising from the Local Community Plans and will work within Community Regeneration Fund (CRF) areas to seek solutions to existing concerns and 'map' future environmental requirements by identifying priorities and resources to deliver action.
- 6.5 Dundee's Regeneration Outcome Agreement identifies five 'cluster' areas for targeted action and these areas will be the focus for DEMi. The clusters are largely based on groupings of those datazones which fall into the most deprived 15% according to the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) 2004. This totals some 50,000 residents.

The Community Regeneration Fund cluster areas are:

| | |
|------|--|
| CRA1 | Menzieshill (part)/Charleston/Lochee/Beechwood |
| CRA2 | St Mary's/Ardler/Kirkton |
| CRA3 | Hilltown/Stobswell/Fairmuir |
| CRA4 | Mill O Mains/Fintry (part)/Whitfield (part) |
| CRA5 | Mid Craigie/Linlathen/Douglas |

- 6.6 Within each of the community regeneration areas, a rich network of groups exist with a wide range of community and voluntary organisations. This network provides an ideal consultee grouping for taking forward DEMi.
- 6.7 Detailed Objectives, Targets, Outputs, Events and Outcomes are set out in Appendix 2.
- 6.8 A part-time Community Development Worker will be employed to deliver the environmental mapping initiative, working directly with those communities the project is targeting. This employee will be based in the Communities Department.

7.0 CONSULTATION

- 7.1 These proposals have been the subject of full consultation with those involved in the Dundee Partnership for the Environment.

7.2 The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executives (Finance) and (Support Services) have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 The following background paper was relied upon in the preparation of this Report:

Dundee Environmental Mapping initiative (DEMi) - funding application to the Scottish Executive

S. Murdoch
Head of Communities

4 July 2005

J.C. Petrie
Assistant Chief Executive (Management)

4 July 2005

APPENDIX 1

| DUNDEE ENVIRONMENTAL MAPPING INITIATIVE | 2005/06 £ |
|---|----------------------|
| Capital Cost (laptop) | 1,000 |
| Office Expenditure/ Consumables To include: A - Heating/Lighting - Fax/Phone/Internet - Equipment/Materials: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Misc materials and equipment ▪ Filing cabinets, shelves, storage ▪ Tools ▪ Art materials B - Printing/stationery - Colour printing/photocopying - B&W photocopying - Dundee City Council stationery - Films and developing - Design, stationery, printing & display materials | 3,000 |
| Staff Costs (P/T DEMi Community Development Worker) | 14,500 |
| Travel and subsistence | 1,000 |
| Community mapping events (inc. venue hire, refreshments etc) | 1,000 |
| Line Management costs/office accommodation/admin support/Local Community Worker Support | 4,000 |
| Total | £24,500 |

In kind contribution from Dundee City Council is as follows:

- Dundee City Council's Local Community Regeneration teams will input into the DEMi project and assist the Community Development Worker over the course of the year.
- Line Management by Dundee City Council's Communities Department - approx £3,000.
- Ongoing support and advice provided by the Council's Environmental Strategy Officer and officers from across Dundee City Council.
- Guidance and support from Dundee Partnership for the Environment.

DEMi Objectives

1. Work with Dundee's most deprived neighbourhoods to map their 'state of environment' and issues of concern.
2. Develop practical solutions to environmental problems and barriers faced by Dundee's priority community regeneration areas.
3. Further develop the environmental considerations set out in Dundee's Local Community Plans and increase the environmental profile of the Local Community Plans.
4. Ensure environmental considerations are placed at the heart of the Dundee Partnership decision making and provide a strong environmental input into the local community planning process.
5. Build capacity within the most deprived neighbourhoods of the city and provide a community platform for the exchange of views on Dundee's environment.

Targets

Five objectives are proposed for DEMi (as outlined above) which performance will be measured against. Coupled with this, it is proposed that the Community Development Worker would work with each of the five CRF areas to set targets on how best to ensure outputs and outcomes are best achieved for each of the unique neighbourhood areas.

Outputs:

- Community mapping exercises in each of the five CRF areas.
- Baseline audit report on existing environmental activity in each of the CRF areas (incl. database).
- Consultation report on environmental issues in each CRF area (to incl. current barriers and opportunities for practical action).
- Final report to DPE to include a summary of findings and recommendations.

Events:

- Launch event to stimulate awareness, interest and inform partners and community of project.
- Series of community consultation events to capture local views/issues.
- City wide dissemination of findings (final report) event.

Outcomes:

- Provide opportunities for people to actively participate in their local environment.
- Encourage collaborative working between local partnerships and organisations to enhance community capacity.
- Reduce duplication and promote synergy, prioritisation and evidence based approach to tackling local environmental issues.
- Spread good practice within Dundee's communities that can be replicated elsewhere.
- Raise awareness of the interlinking relationship between a good, clean environment with social and health benefits.
- Ensure the environment is a core element of Local Community Planning in Dundee.
- Provide a platform for the continuing debate on Dundee's environment.
- Increase the profile of environmental issues and opportunities for responses through Community Learning and Development.