

REPORT TO : POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 20 OCTOBER 2003
REPORT ON : DUNDEE SUN CITY INITIATIVE
REPORT BY : CITY ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES OFFICER
REPORT NO: 668-2003

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1. To inform the Committee that Dundee City Council has become a partner in the Dundee Sun City Initiative in line with current policy on energy conservation.

1.2. To outline the level of commitment proposed.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that :-

2.1 Dundee City Council identifies suitable sites to act as demonstration projects for this initiative.

2.2 Dundee City Council continues with existing projects and would offer these as a contribution to this initiative.

2.3 Dundee City Council explores the possibility of adapting future projects to match the aims of the Dundee Sun City initiative.

2.4 Risk assessments be carried out on all projects before proceeding with any of these initiatives to ensure that external funding can be maximised, revenue savings are achieved and that any new technology to be used has been fully researched and is sustainable.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 Scottish Executive funding will be available on most projects up to a maximum contribution of 75%.

3.2 Residual funding on any project will be financed through revenue savings which will be identified prior to any renewable energy initiative proceeding.

4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

The following objectives of Agenda 21 will be addressed :-

4.1 resources are used efficiently and waste is minimized.

4.2 the diversity of nature is valued and protected

4.3 local needs are met locally

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

None.

6.0 BACKGROUND

- 6.1 The Dundee Sun City initiative was identified by the Tayside Development Officer of the Scottish Community and Householder Renewables Initiative (SCHRI) which is funded by the Energy Savings Trust (EST), an arm of the Scottish Executive.
- 6.2 It was suggested that a partnership be formed with SCHRI, Dundee City Council, Universities of Dundee and Abertay and Scottish Enterprise Tayside with a view to promoting this initiative.
- 6.3 From records it has been shown that Dundee's sunshine figures are greater than any other City in Scotland. It is proposed, therefore, to maximize the use of this natural resource to benefit the environment and to generate savings in energy costs.
- 6.4 It is hoped the partners, through this initiative will maximize the use of Solar Energy, and through its implementation, assist Dundee in becoming an exemplar throughout Scotland and the UK as a leader in the use of Solar Energy.
- 6.5 As a partner in the Dundee Sun City initiative, Dundee City Council would expect to realise a number of benefits and to address many of the objectives currently identified by the Council.

These would include:-

- Addressing the Priorities and Values of the Corporate Plan – make more Efficient and Effective use of Resources.
- Reduce energy costs and increase revenue savings
- Environmental benefits – reduce carbon emissions leading to a cleaner environment
- Economic benefits – possible manufacturing base for solar panels
- Social benefits – address fuel poverty, social inclusion and improved quality of life
- Increased skills for Tradesmen
- Promote partnerships with SME's, Universities, Scottish Enterprise Tayside and Scottish Executive
- Possible grants to assist with funding of capital costs

7.0 CONSULTATION

- 7.1 The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Finance), Depute Chief Executive (Support Services) and the Assistant Chief Executive (Corporate Planning) have been consulted on the contents of this report.

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 8.1 No background papers, as defined by section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than containing confidential or exempt information), were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report.

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JP/YM
24 September 2003
Report Nr 668-2003