

Scottish Government Regeneration Capital Grant Fund – Regenerating Rosewell

Report by Garry Sheret, Head of Property and Facilities Management

1 Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of the outcome of the Regenerating Rosewell funding bid submitted by Midlothian Council to the Scottish Government Regeneration Capital Grant Fund in partnership with Rosewell Community Development Trust.

2 Background

2.1 Capital Grant

The Regeneration Capital Grant Fund forms one element of the financial support package provided by the Scottish Government as part of achieving a sustainable future: The Regeneration Strategy, which was published in December 2011 by the Government.

The Regeneration Capital Grant Fund has been developed in partnership with COSLA and Scottish local authorities. The annual budget of £25 million is available to provide financial support to projects that will help to deliver large-scale improvements to deprived areas across the country.

The fund supports regeneration projects across Scotland and is available on a competitive basis to eligible organisations.

The fund is primarily aimed at providing new and/or improved infrastructure which improves the economic, social, and physical environment of communities.

The focus of the fund relates to:-

- Projects that primarily focus on areas which suffer from high levels of deprivation and disadvantage.
- Projects that will deliver transformational change with strong regeneration outcomes.
- Projects and programmes which have the potential to lever in private sector investment and address long term market failure.
- Projects that demonstrate clear community involvement.

3.0 Application Submitted – Regenerated Rosewell

3.1 Council Meeting

At its meeting on 27 June 2017 the Council considered an update on the Scottish Government Regeneration Capital Grant Fund by the Director Resources.

At the meeting the Council agreed to:

- a) Note the timescales for Regeneration Capital Grant funding bids announced by the Government in May 2017.*
- b) Note the intention of the Director, Resources on behalf of the Council to submit the Regenerating Rosewell bid application as set out in Section 3.0.*
- c) Instruct the Director, Resources to report in 2018 on the outcome of the bid.*
- d) Instruct the Director, Resources to review and validate the revised cost plan provided by the Trust.*

Since the June 2017 Council, the Director Resources supported by relevant officers has continued to meet with the Rosewell Development Trust to refine, progress and assist with the updated and revised application to the 2018/19 Regeneration Capital Grant Fund.

3.2 Project Summary

The background and rationale for the Regenerating Rosewell Project is set out below:

- Rosewell has no fit for purpose community facilities. Previously a thriving mining village with a strong sense of both community spirit and wellbeing, over the past fifteen years, due to the demise of the mining industry in the area, it has seen the loss of local amenities and business which led to an increase in unemployment levels. Owing to the lack of inward investment the economy, the wellbeing and spirit of the community has been impacted.
- In October 2010, a group of residents formed the Rosewell Development Trust to tackle the economic, social wellbeing and lack of community facilities within the Rosewell Community.
- With funding support from People in Communities, The Robertson Trust, Midlothian Council, Big Lottery and other partners over the past five years Rosewell Development Trust has achieved significant success.

3.3 Project Funding

The revised overall capital costs of the project have been estimated to be £2,276,000 based on a stage 2 report provided by the Trust's advisers Cooper Cromar. The anticipated funding contributions that the Trust aim to secure which were forecast prior to the outcome of the Regeneration Capital Grant Fund application are outlined in table 1 below:

Table 1: Capital Expenditure and Funding Position

Funding Organisation	Revised Funding £000's	
Construction Costs	£2,276	
Proposed Funding:		
Big Lottery	£980	(a)
Regeneration Capital Grant Funding	£884	
The Robertson Trust	£227	(b)
Midlothian Council – Developer contributions	£135	
Midlothian Council – Environmental Funds	£50	
Total Proposed Funding	£2,276	

Notes

(a) Passed to stage one and awaiting outcome of stage two.

(b) Trust in negotiations to secure funding.

Regeneration Capital Grant Funding

On 12 March 2018 the Council received confirmation of the successful outcome of the £884,000 Regeneration Capital Grant Funding Bid in respect of Regenerating Rosewell.

4 Report Implications

4.1 Resource

The revised project costs associated with the Regeneration Rosewell Project are as detailed in section 3.3

Presently officers from a range of Council services continue to work closely with the Rosewell Community Development Trust. The Director, Resources continues to monitor the Council Officer resources assigned to the project.

4.2 Risk

It is necessary to ensure that the appropriate specialist resources are available to the Trust to progress the project. A robust legal agreement

will require to be in place before any funding is released from the Council to the Trust. Furthermore, it is imperative that all external funding is secured and is in place prior to committing contracts to demonstrate the viability of the project progressing in 2018/19.

4.3 Single Midlothian Plan and Business Transformation

Themes addressed in this report:

- ☒ Community safety
- ☒ Adult health, care and housing
- ☐ Getting it right for every Midlothian child
- ☒ Improving opportunities in Midlothian
- ☒ Sustainable growth
- ☐ Business transformation and Best Value
- ☐ None of the above

4.4 Key Priorities within the Single Midlothian Plan

In terms of the key priorities of the Community Planning Partnership through the Single Midlothian Plan, the proposal set out in this report will deliver significant benefits in relation to business growth.

4.5 Impact on Performance and Outcomes

The Rosewell Hub will contribute to meet the priority of improving Midlothian's infrastructure and working with communities.

4.6 Adopting a Preventative Approach

The proposal outlined improves the prospects to make Rosewell more economically viable and more attractive for those who live, visit and work in area.

4.7 Involving Communities and Other Stakeholders

Further consultation and information events will be held with the community before work commences on site.

4.8 Ensuring Equalities

The Regenerating Rosewell Project will have a number of positive impacts on equality groups.

4.9 Supporting Sustainable Development

This proposal outlined in this report is specifically targeted at Rosewell and surrounding area.

4.10 Digital Issues

There are no digital issues arising from this report.

5 Recommendations

It is recommended that Council:-

- a) Note the successful outcome of the £884,000 Regeneration Capital Grant Funding Bid in respect of Regenerating Rosewell.
- b) Instruct the Director Resources to provide update reports to Council as required on progress with the Rosewell Hub.

12 March 2018

Report Contact:

John Blair Tel No 0131 271 3102

John.blair@midlothian.gov.uk

Background Papers: