

Report

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Report to:	Corporate Resources Committee
Date of Meeting:	21 September 2005
Report by:	Executive Director (Corporate Resources)

Subject:	Clyde Valley Efficient Government Bid
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ advise the Committee on the progress of the Clyde Valley Training bid to the Efficient Government Fund and the next steps in the bidding process.

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that the current progress of the Clyde Valley Training bid to the Efficient Government Fund be noted;
- (2) that the proposal to develop the Stage 2 bid according to the Draft Guidance provided by the Scottish Executive be endorsed; and
- (3) that the Head of Legal Services be authorised to draft an appropriate partnership framework for consideration by the Clyde Valley Chief Executives Forum.

3. Background

3.1. As a result of discussion with the Clyde Valley Chief Executives, it was agreed that a consortium bid in relation to more efficient and effective training would be worthwhile, with South Lanarkshire Council taking the lead in preparation of the bid.

The objectives of the bid are to develop collaborative approaches to:

- ◆ commissioning, developing, delivering and assessing training across the local government workforce
- ◆ standardizing quality of training
- ◆ encouraging good practice

Achieving these objectives will lead to savings in cost and time which can be redirected.

4. Current Position

4.1. Bids to the Scottish Executive Efficient Government Fund are required to progress through a two stage process. Stage 1 is termed the 'expression of interest' stage. Projects successful in this process are invited to make a formal bid through Stage 2 of the process. This includes submission of a full and robust business case for the project.

4.2 The Clyde Valley Training Bid has been given approval to progress to Stage 2 bid. Feedback from the Scottish Executive in July has confirmed that we will receive £50k development funding in order to put together a robust Stage 2 bid to the Efficient Government Fund.

4.3 Given the involvement of eight local authorities in a venture which will require joint decision making, it is proposed that the Head of Legal Services drafts an appropriate governance framework for consideration by the participating authorities.

5. Proposal

5.1 The existing Clyde Valley Personnel and Training Group will undertake the detailed development of the Stage 2 bid.

5.2 In accordance with the Scottish Executive guidance, South Lanarkshire Council takes the lead role in developing the bid and in any subsequent implementation of proposals to generate efficiencies in training and development for local government employees.

5.3 Such efficiencies are likely to concern the:-

- ◆ commissioning
- ◆ development
- ◆ delivery
- ◆ assessment

of training.

5. Future Developments

5.1 A further report outlining the operating arrangements will be prepared for Committee should the bid be successful.

6. Employee Implications

6.1 None

7. Financial Implications

7.1 The Scottish Executive will fund 50% of eligible costs incurred in the development of the Stage 2 Bid to the Efficient Government Fund, to maximum costs of £100,000 (i.e. the maximum contribution will be £50,000). This will be divided amongst the eight participating authorities.

7.2 Eligible costs will be restricted to staff costs, consultancy, training, travel and subsistence.

7.3 As lead bidder, South Lanarkshire will be responsible for all financial, legal and monitoring functions relating to the project.

7.4 The Executive has indicated that contributions from the Efficient Government Fund may require to be repaid to the fund from savings arising from the project. South Lanarkshire will be responsible for recovering the amounts to be repaid from participating councils.

8. Other Implications

8.1 None

9. Consultation

9.1 Consultation has taken place with the eight local authorities which are as follows:-

- ◆ South Lanarkshire Council
- ◆ North Lanarkshire Council
- ◆ Glasgow City Council
- ◆ East Dunbartonshire Council
- ◆ West Dunbartonshire Council
- ◆ East Renfrewshire Council
- ◆ Renfrewshire Council
- ◆ Inverclyde Council

Alan Cuthbertson
Executive Director (Corporate Resources)

2 September 2005

Link(s) to Council Objectives

- ◆ Modernising Services
- ◆ Managing Resources

Previous References

None

List of Background Papers

None

Contact for Further Information

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

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